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VOYAGES AND TRAVELS



AN ENGLISH GARNER

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# VOYAGES AND TRAVELS

mainly during the 16th and 17th Centuries

VOL. I

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
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WESTMINSTER  
ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE AND CO., LTD.

1903

## PUBLISHERS' NOTE

THE texts contained in the present volume are reprinted with very slight alterations from the *English Garner* issued in eight volumes (1877-1890, London, 8vo) by Professor Arber, whose name is sufficient guarantee for the accurate collation of the texts with the rare originals, the old spelling being in most cases carefully modernised. The contents of the original *Garner* have been rearranged and now for the first time classified, under the general editorial supervision of Mr. Thomas Seccombe. Certain lacunae have been filled by the interpolation of fresh matter. The Introductions are wholly new and have been written specially for this issue.



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## INTRODUCTION TO VOLUME I

THE following collection of voyages and travels, mainly of Elizabethan Englishmen, is the reappearance of an old friend, or rather of many old friends. As distributed throughout the volumes of 'Arber's *Garner*,' these narratives have long been consulted by students of the Tudor and Stuart periods: they are now separated from the matter relating to other subjects in Prof. Arber's great compilation, and arranged as nearly as possible in strict chronological order. The greater number, amounting to a little less than half the present body of text, are reprinted (with occasional compression) from Hakluyt's *Principal Navigations*, either from the first edition of 1589 (so constantly superior in clearness of arrangement and judgment of selection to any later stage of that memorable work), or else from the bulkier edition of 1599-1600, the final Hakluyt of the compiler's own life and labour. But besides these Hakluytian pieces, the present volumes contain the interesting and not easily accessible correspondence between William Hawkins and Sir William Cecil of December 1568 and January 1569, relative to the disaster of 'San Juan d'Ulloa' (pp. 83-90), and the still more important depositions of March 1569 in the English Admiralty Court as to the aforesaid disaster, the guilt of the Spanish assailants of Sir John Hawkins, and the losses sustained by his fleet on that occasion (see vol. i. pp. 104-26). Here is also reprinted the correspondence necessary to give a summary view of John Hawkins' pre-

tended intrigue with Spain in the summer of 1571 (vol. i. pp. 127-30).

It is in the second volume, however, that we find the gems of the present collection—an abridgment of the first part of Linschoten's *Itinerario*, *Sir Francis Drake revived*, and *The Captivity of Robert Knox*; the first (pp. 1-126 of vol. ii. and pp. 321-30 of vol. i.) being from the standard old English version of the Dutch text made in 1598; the second (pp. 220-94) from the very rare edition of 1626; and the third (pp. 295-429) from the original text of 1681. All three are narratives of first-class value, not too easy to procure, and as interesting as they are valuable.

Of lesser importance, but even by themselves giving reason sufficient for the present issue, are such tracts as Edward Wright's *Voyage of the Earl of Cumberland* (1589), *The 'Dolphin's' Sea-Fight against Five Turkish Men of War* (1616-7), and *The Captivity of Richard Hasleton* (1582-92; see vol. ii. pp. 186-212; 213-20; 151-80).

Professor Arber's businesslike and suggestive notes have usually been retained, and with these and the help of this Introduction it is hoped that students of the great age of discovery may find some use in a series of narratives so vivid in style, so photographic in their character-sketches, so admirably characteristic of the men and the times to which they refer.

Of the first three tracts in volume i. (pp. 1-28)—Roger Bodenham's *Voyage to Scio* in 1551, Tomson's *Voyage to the West Indies and Mexico* in 1555-8, and Roger Bodenham's *Journey to Mexico* in 1564-5—it is not necessary to say much. The first is from the final edition of Hakluyt (*Principal Navigations*) of 1599-1600, the second and third from Hakluyt's first edition of 1589. It is noteworthy that

Robert Tomson, in 1555, found English traders, servants of two City Merchants, engaged in commerce in Grand Canary; and that in the town of Mexico itself he arrived only to find himself anticipated by a Scotsman. This pioneer, one Thomas Blake, had been there over twenty years (in 1556), and must therefore have appeared in that remote Spanish possession before 1536, or less than fifteen years after Cortes' conquest (1521). Richard Chancellor, 'who first discovered Russia,' was with Bodenham in the voyage to Scio: it may perhaps be noted that the real discoverer of Russia to Western Europe was the Imperial envoy Sigismund von Herberstein, who in 1517 and 1526 (more than thirty years before Chancellor) visited Moscow, and compiled the most valuable of all early descriptions of Muscovy. The voyage of Chancellor and Willoughby in 1553 was really in search of the north-east passage to Cathay; in the course of this unsuccessful venture Chancellor and his men found their way to the White Sea, the Dvina, and the court of Ivan the Terrible; thus opening Russia to English and Western European trade by a new and direct route, and outflanking the obstructive monopoly of the Hanse traders of the Baltic.

Next comes the series of John Hawkins' voyages (1562-8) to the West Indies; and here it will be necessary to say rather more by way of preface (see vol. i. pp. 29-130, 161-242). The narrative of the first Hawkins voyage hereafter printed is from the Hakluyt of 1589, *First Voyage of Sir John Hawkins, . . . made to the West Indies* 1562. John Hawkins, younger son of William Hawkins, the Brazil trader of 1530, seems to have been born in or about 1532, though the traditional date is 1520. According to Hakluyt, it was by divers voyages to the Canaries that John had



'informed himself by diligent inquisition of the State of the West India (whereof he had received knowledge by the instructions of his father, but increased the same by the advertisements and reports of that people). And being amongst other particulars assured that Negroes were very good merchandise in Hispaniola, and that store of Negroes might easily be had upon the coast of Guinea, [he] resolved with himself to make trial thereof.' These voyages of John's to the Canaries were probably subsequent to 1555, the year of old William's death, and they soon brought such profit, that shortly after the accession of Elizabeth the future sea-king married a daughter of Benjamin Gonson, Treasurer of the Royal Navy. Already, in 1553, the English had begun to struggle for a share of the Guinea trade; and in 1561 Gonson had joined in a syndicate whose aim was to establish a factory at Benin or some other point in the Guinea littoral, in defiance of Portuguese opposition.<sup>1</sup> The enterprise failed, but in 1562 it was renewed, while Hawkins prepared for a still more daring venture—no less than the commercial invasion of the Spanish American monopoly by means of the African, or more particularly the Guinea, slave trade. As to this commerce, it had been practised by the Portuguese continually since 1441, when Antam Gonsalves brought home certain *Mouros negros* from the neighbourhood of Cape Bojador.<sup>2</sup> In 1517 Charles v. formally licensed the importation of African negroes into the West Indies. The trade was supported by philanthropic arguments, as by the generous Las Casas, who (for a time) saw in it the

<sup>1</sup> The Queen, as Mr. Corbett well suggests (*Drake*, i. 78), was possibly a shareholder in this venture: the *Minion* was certainly lent to the venturers from the Royal Navy.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Azurara, *Chronicle of the Discovery and Conquest of Guinea*, chs. xii.-xiv.

only means of preserving the weaker American Indians from extinction. Las Casas changed his view before his death; but he had at least the satisfaction of stopping many abuses, and imposing a certain responsibility on the traders. No one was now permitted to take part in the commerce without a royal licence, only granted at a high price; a duty was also imposed on every slave that entered the West Indies from Guinea.

In 1551, 17,000 licences for slave-importation from Africa to the West Indies were offered for sale by the Spanish Government. In 1553 Fernando Ochoa obtained a monopoly of the slave trade for seven years, during which he bound himself to import 23,000 negroes. Two years after the expiry of Ochoa's term Hawkins entered the field with a bold attempt to break through the monopoly altogether.

No English fleet had yet ventured into the Spanish sphere, though from the days of William Hawkins and his Brazil voyage of 1530 our countrymen had been attempting to break into the *mare clausum* of the weaker Portuguese. The Spanish name was too imposing, the trade with the European ports of the Spanish Empire,—in the Peninsula, in the Netherlands, and in Italy—was too precious an asset of our early trade to be lightly affronted or endangered.

John Hawkins, therefore, when he proposed a venture, which to any prudent man foreshadowed inevitable trouble with Spain, found but a few inclined to back his venture. The chief of these were Alderman Lionel Ducket, an enterprising Father of London City, and Thomas Lodge (afterwards Sir Thomas), a Governor of the Muscovy Company, which, since the Russian voyage of Chancellor

and Willoughby in 1553, had won a very prominent position in English trade-expansion. Three 'private' ships, the largest of 120 tons, were fitted out, and with this little squadron and a cargo of English goods Hawkins set out in October 1562. With this voyage opened the great commercial (and so political) struggle that ended with the downfall of Spanish oceanic power. Deeper even than religious hatred, we may find the prime cause of the long and bitter war of Elizabethan England against Spain lies in the trade rivalry for the Western world and in the aggressive mercantile policy of the English people.

At Teneriffe Hawkins had formed a trade-alliance with one Pedro de Ponte, an ambitious and not too patriotic merchant, who was shrewdly suspected of having suggested the whole project of the West Indian trade to the English, and at his hands the adventurers received their prime necessity, a pilot for Spanish America. On the Guinea coast the 'interlopers' kidnapped about three hundred slaves who were sold at a very large profit in various ports of Hispaniola, Hayti, or San Domingo. Hawkins chartered two extra vessels to transport the surplus of his gains to Europe, and with an almost incredible assurance, professedly relying on the old commercial treaties (of 1495, 1499, etc.) between England and Burgundy, sent these ships to be sold at Cadiz in charge of Captain Hampton, his second in command (1563). They were promptly confiscated, and a long-standing implicit prohibition was now made sufficiently explicit. The Spanish colonies of the New World were forbidden absolutely and without exception to trade with the English in any way.

Hawkins' second voyage (1564-5) was supported by a far more powerful syndicate than the first. Among the



shareholders<sup>1</sup> of the capital appears to have been the Queen, who lent the expedition its flagship or 'admiral,' the *Jesus of Lubeck*, a vessel of 700 tons, which had been bought for the English navy by Henry VIII. from the Hanse traders of Lubeck. Elizabeth's stake in the venture may be judged from the fact that the *Jesus* was valued at £4000 (perhaps £30,000—£40,000 of our money). The Earl of Pembroke was another shareholder, and efforts were made, though in vain, to induce Cecil (Burleigh) to join. Nothing in the nature of illicit commerce or piracy attracted the conservative leader of English statesmen; but he took no steps, as on certain subsequent occasions, to nip in the bud a possible buccaneering outgrowth of legitimate trade.

Again Hawkins made for Teneriffe and his friend, Pedro de Ponte; again he provided himself with the needful information in the very house of his rivals; again he prospected successfully for slaves on the Guinea coast<sup>2</sup> (going every day on shore to hunt his negroes, 'with burning and spoiling of their towns'); again he crossed to the West Indies, but not this time to Hispaniola. Well aware of King Philip's prohibition and of the certainty that in the great colonial centre of San Domingo, if anywhere, no smuggling would be allowed, he tried his luck in the

<sup>1</sup> The usual practice, as Mr. Corbett explains (*Drake*, i. 82), was for a small group of capitalists (commonly about five) to 'underwrite' or become responsible for definite portions of the required capital, which they placed among their friends. Only the names of the original underwriters, who were directors of the company, usually appeared; among their backers were often to be found the leading people in the State, the Queen, the Earl of Pembroke, etc. On the *Jesus*, cf. *State Papers, Domestic*, xxxvii. 61; Oct. 23, 1565.

<sup>2</sup> Just at the same time the Garrard Company's fleet, with the *Minion* as flag-ship, sailed for Guinea and was discomfited off La Mina. Hawkins was much aggrieved at the information given by the *Minion's* people to certain negro tribes near Cape Verde, 'of nature very gentle and loving,' whom he was attempting to kidnap.

ports of the 'Spanish Main' or Tierra Firma, the continental province whose coast stretched from the Orinoco to the Isthmus of Panama.

The harbour of 'Burboroata,' Burburata or Borburata, where he began operations, is the 'Burborough water' of later English seamen, in the Golfo Triste on the Venezuela coast, now marked out by a deserted creek or *ensenada*, some five leagues east of the present Puerto Cabello.<sup>1</sup> Here, as at Curaçao and Rio de la Hacha, the cheerful insolence of the English captain 'forcing to friendly commerce' proved completely successful; the 'lean and sick negroes' were sold at good profit (60 per cent.); and on his way home Hawkins was able to succour the distressed Huguenot colony of Laudonnière in Florida. The reason of their misfortune was clear to the Englishmen: the French settlers had no labourers, but being soldiers, desired to live by the sweat of other men's brows: one of their chief comforts was 'tabacco,' by the great virtue whereof they could satisfy their hunger for four or five days without meat or drink.

Not only was gold and silver plentiful in Florida, Hawkins reported, but unicorns and other useful commodities might be found there; to settle and colonise this country would be an attempt requisite for a prince of power; the increase from cattle alone, without counting the precious metals, would bring profit sufficient (pp. 73-79). So keenly were the eyes of English pioneers already fixed upon the Western world as a field for colonising energy.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Corbett, *Drake*, i. 84; Blaeu, *Atlas Major*, 1652, vol. ii. f. 89.

<sup>2</sup> The narrative of the second Hawkins voyage, hereafter printed, is from the Hakluyt of 1589, written by one John Sparke, a gentleman adventurer who accompanied Hawkins.

After Hawkins' second return, a new Spanish ambassador, Don Diego Guzman De Silva, came to England, and to his watchful energy was largely due that greater alertness of the Spanish authorities which ruined the third venture of the interlopers (1567-8). In 1565-6 Francis Drake seems to have sailed to the Spanish Main with one Captain Lovell, and to have been roughly handled at Rio de la Hacha, a not wholly unnatural retaliation for *Achines'* behaviour there a few months before;<sup>1</sup> but De Silva's diplomacy prevented Hawkins from breaking loose again till 1567. Then at last, after many a check and double, the Adventurers got clear away. Backed by a syndicate, at the head of which were Alderman Lionel Ducket and Sir William Garrard, and to which the Queen appears to have lent her support (as a shareholder) even more generously than before, the English captain slipped off from Plymouth on October 2, 1567, with a fleet of six vessels, two of them from the royal navy. These were the *Jesus of Lubeck* (700 tons; 180 men in crew; 22 heavy and 42 lighter guns) and the *Minion* (350 tons): the private barks were the *William and John* of 150 tons, the *Swallow* of 100, the *Judith* of 50, and the *Angel* of 32. Francis Drake sailed as captain and master of the *Judith*, being then, according to Stow, twenty-two years of age. The squadron had an 'Admiral,' 'Vice-Admiral,' 'General,' and 'Captain of Soldiers,' the complete naval equipment, and carried a force of between 600 and 700 men, in De Silva's opinion. Hawkins' Syndicate had subscribed sums equal to £16,000 of modern money to the expedition: Hawkins' own property on the *Jesus of Lubeck*

<sup>1</sup> In the same year Fenner of Chichester, who had intended sailing to the West Indies with Hawkins, was obliged to content himself with a Guinea voyage, in which he exchanged some hard knocks with the Portuguese.

was estimated at between £3000 and £4000 in modern value.<sup>1</sup> In reading the various narratives referring to this voyage, we cannot help noticing how constantly Hawkins' own (official) account requires supplementing from the narratives of the Englishmen who landed on the Mexico coast, and after so many trials escaped to England. David Ingram, Job Hartop, and Miles Phillips<sup>2</sup> were the survivors of a hundred of Hawkins' seamen who volunteered to go ashore from the overcrowded *Minion* (rescued with such

<sup>1</sup> As to the authorities for the third Hawkins voyage:—Hawkins' own account of the voyage of 1567-8 (afterwards reprinted by Hakluyt; see vol. i. pp. 91-103) was originally printed in 1569 under the title *A true declaration of the troublesome voyage of Mr. John Hawkins to the parts of Guinea and the West Indies in the years . . . 1567 and 1568*. Miles Phillips, who returned from captivity in 1583, compiled his narrative with the assistance of Hawkins' report.

The affidavits as to the losses at San Juan de Ulua (printed in vol. i. pp. 104-26) are from a manuscript volume in the Public Record Office (*S. P. Dom.*, *Eliz.* liii.)—*Sir John Hawkins' Voyage*, 1569 (July 2). Of the eleven depositions, only Hawkins' own is here printed in full. This, of course, was the English Government's official statement of its case. The Spanish Government's has been lately rediscovered by Captain Fernandez Duro from the *Coleccion Navarrete*, and a version of it is given in Corbett, *Drake*, i. 417-20. It was originally sent by Philip II. to Alva with orders to forward it to the Spanish Ambassador in London (cf. *Spanish Calendar*, 1568-79, p. 110; Feb. 18, 1569): but Alva advised and procured its suppression. Besides these, there is Herrera's account of the action at San Juan, in his *Historia General*, Part I. book xv. chap. 18; a letter from Hawkins to Cecil written from the *Minion*, on his return to England, the same day as his arrival at Plymouth; and the narratives of Ingram, Phillips, and Hartop.

Drake was considered by Hawkins to have deserted after the San Juan disaster. 'So with the . . . *Judith*, a small bark . . .' (says John) 'we escaped; which bark the same night forsook us in our great misery.' (See vol. i. p. 101.) This was long remembered against him: even in 1587 Admiral Borough retorts upon the great captain with the charge, so much exaggerated by Herrera, so discreetly softened away by Miles Phillips ('the same night the said bark *lost* us': see vol. i. p. 183.)

<sup>2</sup> For David Ingram, see vol. i. pp. 161-72 (reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1589, p. 557); for Miles Phillips, see vol. i. pp. 173-218 (from the Hakluyt of 1589, or 1599-1600, pp. 469-87); for Job Hartop, see vol. i. pp. 219-42 (from the Hakluyt of 1599-1600, vol. iii. pp. 487-495; first printed as a separate tract in 1591).



difficulty from the catastrophe at San Juan), in order to save the remaining hundred; and the stories of these three survivors are given in vol. i. pp. 161-242. Ingram's record,<sup>1</sup> the most fabulous but fortunately the shortest of the three, was omitted from Hakluyt's final edition of 1599-1600—although in some points 'this Examinee's' testimony is certainly worth preserving—'the reward of lying,' as Purchas complains, 'being not to be believed in truths' (*Pilgrimes*, vol. iv. p. 1179, ed. of 1625; book vi. ch. 4).

It is from Hartop, a gunner of the *Jesus*, not from Hawkins himself, that we learn of the reprisals undertaken by the English squadron against the Portuguese, during the first stage of the voyage, off West Africa. Hartop also is the only one who tells us how, at Margarita island in the West Indies, 'our general, in despite of the Spaniards, landed and took in fresh victuals'; how at Placentia the bishop [and people] 'hearing of our coming for fear forsook the town'; how at Rio de la Hacha Drake cut out, ran ashore, and seized as prize a Spanish 'caravel of advice,' or official despatch boat, from the Viceroy at San Domingo. Speaking in 1591, Hartop had no motive to conceal anything.

As to Hawkins' tempest-tost career in the Gulf of Mexico and the harbour of San Juan de Ulua ('Ulloa'), an interesting and valuable commentary on the Hawkins narratives may be found in Robert Tomson's account of his journey in 1555-58,<sup>2</sup> and in John Chilton's *Travels*

<sup>1</sup> It must be very seriously doubted whether David Ingram ever made such an extensive journey in the interior of North America as he claims—from the Gulf of Mexico to within fifty leagues or thereabouts of Cape Breton.

<sup>2</sup> *The Voyage of Robert Tomson, merchant, into Nova Hispania* (1555-8); see vol. i. pp. 7-23; for Chilton's *Travels*, see pp. 265-80. Both these are from the Hakluyt of 1589.

*in Mexico* between 1568 and 1585, also printed in this collection.

In reading the account of the naval action at San Juan it may also be noted that the English ships carried a far heavier artillery than the Spaniards. Thus the *Jesus* 'could throw 250 lbs.'<sup>1</sup> from her twenty-two heavy guns alone without counting the discharge of her forty-two lighter pieces. Had the English not lost command of the eleven guns they had mounted on the island, they would probably have won. Until the undisputed possession of this islet had been granted—in words at least—to his force, Hawkins, though professing himself so 'orderly' and a 'hater of folly' (otherwise piracy), forbade the Viceroy of Mexico entrance to his own chief port. 'If he be Viceroy, I represent my Queen's person, and I am Viceroy as well as he.' After this perhaps a struggle to the death was only to be expected, though not such an 'affair of foxes' as the treacherous indignation of Martin Enrriquez and Francisco de Luxan<sup>2</sup> contrived. It was a terrible revenge for such incidents as the trading at Rio de la Hacha in 1565, when Hawkins gave his unwilling customers the choice of 'granting him a market' or 'else to stand to their own harms,' when the Spanish prices were raised by the 'breakfast' salutation of a volley of ordnance and a landing-party, and when accounts were settled under the superintendence of three English boats 'with bells in their noses and men with weapons accordingly.'

The pretended intrigue of John Hawkins with the

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Corbett, *Drake*, i. 114 n.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Pedro de Santillana's poem of 1570 on De Luxan's victory over Hawkins, the poet's 'Juan Acle' (cf. Duro, *Armada invencible*, ii. 490-501).

Spanish Government (vol. i. pp. 127-30) is famous not only for itself, but for Lingard's self-deception in the matter. The whole was of course undertaken by 'Ackins,' partly to feather his own nest, partly to rescue from captivity some of his unfortunate men, marooned in the Gulf of Mexico and now in Spanish prisons. The English Council of State, so far from being 'suspicious,' were cognisant of the whole throughout.

Jasper Campion's *Discourse of the trade to Scio, written the 14th Feb. 1569 [1570] to Michael Lock and William Winter*,<sup>1</sup> is a summary history of English commerce in the Greek Archipelago during the middle of the sixteenth century, from 1539 to 1570, and itself forms a part of the history of our commerce in the Mediterranean. This trade was prosecuted with great energy under the Tudors—above all, under Elizabeth herself—and Hakluyt gives a surprising number of documents relative to the same. Like Francis I. of France, Elizabeth cultivated friendly, and especially commercial, relations with the chief Mohammedan states, notably the Ottoman Sultan and the 'Emperor' of Morocco. By its subject-matter it is connected with the narratives of Munday and Sanders, immediately following, and with that of Roger Bodenham at the beginning of this volume (see pp. 1-5, 131-8, 139-151, 243-61).

Anthony Munday [A. M.]'s account<sup>2</sup> of the Captivity of John Fox of Woodridge, gunner of the *Three Half Moons*, and of his escape from Alexandria, in which two hundred and sixty-six Christian prisoners of the Turk also participated (Jan. 3, 1577), is one of the most interesting

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1599 (final edition).

<sup>2</sup> Reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1589.

narratives in Hakluyt, and remarkable as causing a momentary softening of bitterness between Catholic and Protestant: the Prior and Fathers of the Dominican Convent of Gallipoli, the Pope, and the King of Spain, all exerted themselves on Fox's behalf; he was granted a licence to beg through the cities and towns of Spain; and Philip II. made him a gunner in the Valencia fleet of galleys.

Thomas Sanders's report of the unfortunate voyage of the *Jesus* to Tripoli in 1584 was first printed as a separate tract on March 31, 1587 (see p. 243 of vol. i.); two years later it was reprinted by Hakluyt in the first edition of his *Principal Navigations* (1589).

From the Mediterranean, Elizabethan traders essayed to push on by overland routes to India, just as others were even now trying to reach the same goal by the long sea route round Africa; and the narratives of Bodenham and Campion, Munday and Sanders, find their continuation in those of Eldred, Newberie, and Fitch, which trace the progress of the English pioneers to the south-east, from the ports of Syria and Egypt to the Persian Gulf, Ormuz, Malabar, and even Bengal and Pegu (pp. 295-324 of this volume).

Thomas Stevens, the English Jesuit who afterwards did so much for the release of Newberie and Fitch, when arrested in Portuguese India, had the same objective as they, but sought it by a different, longer, slightly speedier, and infinitely less obstructible route. He was the first Englishman known to Hakluyt as having reached the Indian mainland by the Cape of Good Hope; and his letter<sup>1</sup> of 1579 (see vol. i. pp. 152-9) from Goa to his father and namesake is a premonition of such future developments

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1589.



as the London East Indian Company. Stevens was a native of Wiltshire, who started for the East from Lisbon on April 4, 1479, with the usual trumpets and 'shooting of ordnance,' 'all in the manner of war,' as the Portuguese were wont to set out for India. His description of the maritime routes inside and outside Madagascar (St. Lawrence Island) was the most valuable part of his narrative for English traders, statesmen, and explorers; for the rest the *Letter* is much more explicit on the birds and fish of the Southern Seas than on people, products, or markets. The good Jesuit in fact was a born naturalist. He has a little to say about the Moors and Caffres of Ethiopia and the inhabitants of Goa 'tawny, but not disfigured in their lips and noses' like the former: yet on the whole it is for descriptions of the albatross, the shark, the pilot-fish, the sucker, and the Medusa that the modern reader will value this report.

John Chilton's notable discourse<sup>1</sup> (see vol. i. pp. 263-80) concerning the memorable things of the West Indies, seen and noted by himself during seventeen years of travel in Mexico and the Islands of the Carribean Sea, is perhaps the most valuable Elizabethan English account of these regions. It refers to the third Hawkins voyage of 1567-8, and to Drake's voyage round the world of 1577-80, when the great freebooter touched at Acapulco on the Pacific coast of Mexico (see pp. 268-9); but it has no direct connection with either of these expeditions. Its picture of Spanish government in New Spain and of the distribution of garrisons, its account of the trade regulations between the colony and the mother-country, and its emphatic statement of the discontent of the settlers and their eagerness for greater freedom of commerce, are all worthy of notice.

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1589.

Thomas Cavendish or Candish was the only Englishman of the Elizabethan time who successfully followed Drake upon the path of Magellan, the circumnavigation of the world. He started on July 21, 1586, upon his 'admirable and prosperous journey into the South Sea, and thence round about the whole earth,' and returned on September 9, 1588, just after the 'overthrowing of the Spanish fleet,' but this second English encircling of the globe was for the most part a less eventful repetition of the first (see vol. i. pp. 281-94).<sup>1</sup> Cavendish was born in or about 1556, and belonged to the Suffolk Cavendishes of Trimley St. Martin, near Ipswich. Having squandered his property in 'following the Court' and leading the life of a gallant, he became a pirate to mend his fortune. His first naval venture was in Sir Richard Grenville's expedition for the planting of the abortive Virginia Colony of 1585. He then followed Grenville in a voyage of plunder and adventure in the Atlantic.

On his return to England, Cavendish promptly set about the organisation of a new expedition, this time for 'the South Sea and round about the globe.' The fullest narrative of the voyage of 1586-8 is that of Francis Pretty, given in the final edition of Hakluyt's *Principal Navigations* (vol. iii. pp. 803-25). To the account hereafter printed we may add the following details. The Spanish settlements in Magellan's Straits visited and described by the English on this venture were relics of the great expedition of twenty-three sail which had been sent out from Seville in September 1581, as a direct consequent of Drake's passage into the Pacific, and as a measure for preventing any similar aggression by the south-west. The Armada was under Diego

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from the Hakluyt of 1589.

Flores de Valdez as Admiral; Pedro Sarmiento, one of Spain's truest heroes, was governor-designate of the intended colony. Storms played havoc with the fleet; only sixteen vessels finally got off to Rio Janeiro; and a start was not made from Brazil until November 1582. De Valdez and Sarmiento, after many bickerings, now finally quarrelled and parted, De Valdez returning to Rio, where he picked up four reinforcement ships that had been sent from Spain with supplies for the colonists, and with their help made his way home again. Sarmiento, driven back once and again by stress of weather, at last made a successful start from the Brazil coast on December 2, 1583, with five ships and five hundred and thirty persons, reached Magellan's Straits on February 1, 1584, and in spite of desertions planted four hundred men and thirty women in two settlements—Nombre de Jesus and San Felipe (miscalled *King Philip's town* by the Cavendish narratives). After Sarmiento's departure the colony went rapidly to ruin. 'Their whole living for a great space' (so the English thought when they lighted upon the twenty-two survivors<sup>1</sup> on January 9, 1587) had been mussels and limpets, eked out by an occasional bit of venison from deer that came down 'out of the mountains to the fresh rivers to drink.'

During the two years they had been there, 'they could never have anything to grow or in any wise prosper.' The Indians also often 'preyed upon them,' and 'victuals grew short, so that they died like dogs in their houses and in their clothes, wherein we found them still at our coming.' The town of San Felipe was so 'wonderfully tainted with the smell and savour of the dead,' that the survivors forsook it and made what living they could, rambling along the shore, from roots, leaves, and any fowl they might kill.

<sup>1</sup> The number is also given as twenty-three or twenty-four.

From among these outcasts Cavendish secured one prisoner, Tomé Hernandez, who succeeded in escaping (March 30, 1587) near Valparaiso, 'notwithstanding all his deep and damnable oaths that he would die on their side before he would be false.' The same man also planned an ambushade on the next day, in which twelve of the English were cut off. At Guatulco or Aguatulco (Acapulco; see vol. i. p. 287), Cavendish is said to have burnt a church and a great wooden cross, which some zealots believed St. Andrew had planted there when he preached the faith to the Mexican Aztecs—a distant mission, unrecorded until the discovery of America started a fresh growth of Apostolic legends. Cavendish smeared the cross with pitch and heaped dry reeds around it; for three days the fire burnt, but at the end the holy sign was still scatheless.

After the capture<sup>1</sup> of the treasure-galleon *Santa Anna*, the division of the spoil offended the crew of the *Content*, who deserted in the night of the 20th November 1587, close to Port Agua Secura, where the booty had been sorted, appropriated, or destroyed. As the *Hugh Gallant* had been sunk off Puna Island in the Gulf of Guayaquil, after the 'regrettable incident' of the ambushade at that place (see vol. i. p. 286), Cavendish's fleet was now reduced to one vessel, the *Desire*, his own flagship. The loss of the *Content* (which was never seen again) was especially felt from the fact that her captain, John Brewer, had accompanied Drake round the world, and had been hitherto the chief guide and pilot of the second English circumnavigation. His place, however, was well supplied for some way by a pilot of the

<sup>1</sup> The capture of the *Santa Anna* was greatly helped by the information extracted from some prisoners—a Fleming and three Spaniards whom Cavendish captured off the Chilian coast, and 'tortured for news' of the treasure galleons and other things.



*Santa Anna*, who took Cavendish as far as Capul in the Philippines (Jan. 15, 1588). Here he tried to communicate with the Spanish Governor of Manilla, and was hanged by his captors for his plot.

By the help of this pilot, Brewer's earlier guiding, and Drake's narratives, Cavendish finished his circuit of the world in five months less than Sir Francis. Like Magellan, he came to blows with the natives of the Ladrões, but apparently rather from a fierce weariness of their mercantile importunity than from anger at their thievishness. During a nine days' stay at Capul the English mariners made observations on the trade, natives, arts, and disposition of the Philippines, which materially stimulated subsequent English voyages to this Archipelago. For here, we were now told, lived men 'of great genius and invention in handicrafts and sciences, every one so expert in his faculty as few Christians are able to go beyond them'; and especially in 'drawing and embroidery upon satin, silk or lawn, either beast, fowl, fish, or worm, for liveliness and perfectness, both in silk, silver, gold, and pearl.' These paragons also promised Cavendish (so Pretty reports) to aid him whenever he should come again to overcome the Spaniards, and paid him a tribute of pigs, poultry, cocoa-nuts, and potatoes. They were skilled in the black art as well as in tattooing, and their intercourse with the devil was of the most pleasant and familiar kind.

Near Manilla the *Desire* chased, but without success, a Spanish vessel which had just put out: only one prisoner was the result of the pursuit, and he was sent on shore with 'commendations' to the Governor and his people, 'willing them to provide good store of gold, for they meant to visit them again within four years.' The rich commerce

that met here from East and South Asia on one side, and from the western littoral of America on the other, moved the admiration of the visitors; and to secure a share in this Philippine wealth, and, if possible, the sole control of it, soon became a prominent ambition of English commerce. The political action of Cavendish here was a complement to that of Drake in Ternate. Hurrying through the unhealthy Moluccas, where his men suffered severely from the 'untemperate' climate, Cavendish made a stay of eleven days in Java (March 5-16). The natives he thought the bravest race in the south-east parts of the globe. Still more opportunely for his political projects, he here fell in with some Portuguese exiles who hoped to win for Don Antonio 'all the Moluccas at command, besides China, Ceylon, and the Philippines,' to say nothing of all the Indians. Here was a bright prospect for the English allies of Don Antonio who might well hope to reap some profit out of a colonial rising against Philip II.

In a rapid passage of two months and three days Cavendish traversed the 'mighty and vast sea' between Java and the main of Africa, observing the 'heavens, stars, and fowls—marks unto seamen'; and almost as rapid was his voyage in eighty-one days from St. Helena (where he repeated his outrages upon the faith he detested, beating down the altar and cross of the church, as Linschoten tells us) to the 'long-wished-for port of Plymouth.'

The narratives of Eldred, Fitch, and Newberie (already referred to) are of much higher importance than seems generally understood (see vol. i. pp. 295-332). They record the first direct intercourse of the English nation, and especially of its merchants, with India (1583-91): they represent to us the essential forward step to which the Central

Asiatic ventures of Anthony Jenkinson, Drake's treaty with the King of Ternate, and the isolated and, so to say, almost accidental journey of Thomas Stevens, were preliminaries: with them begins the British trade-empire in South Asia. And in all our later history there is no process more in evidence than the conversion of commercial into political dominion. With the three above-named went two less-known merchants, Leedes and Storey: all alike were sent out by the joint-boards of the Levant and Muscovy Companies, and acted as accredited envoys from England to the Great Mogul and the Son of Heaven, bearing letters from Elizabeth to Akbar and the Emperor of China. Primarily, however, they were sent out to prospect for English commerce, conveying samples of our goods, especially in cloth and tin, to Aleppo, Bagdad, Ormuz, and the other markets of the Levant, and reporting home first and foremost upon the markets, prices, and trade routes of South-Western and Southern Asia.

It is noteworthy that we find in Newberie's list of nationalities then to be found trading at Goa, not only French, Germans, and Italians, but even Hungarians and Muscovites, among Christian peoples.

Of the whole party only Fitch returned to England to report complete success in the mission for which he had been sent out. Leedes entered the service of the Great Akbar; Storey joined the Church of Rome, and was ordained a priest at Goa; Newberie died in the Punjab on his way home; Eldred seems not to have gone beyond Basrah—Bassora or Bussorah—at the head of the Persian Gulf.

Who ever heard, says Hakluyt, of Englishmen at Goa before? Who ever heard of the Indian trade, in the next

generation, without some reference to the eager competition of England in this traffic? The information given to London merchants by the Newberie-Fitch group of pioneers was undoubtedly one of the main guides to the organised effort of the next decade, culminating in the East India Company of 1600. Among other stimulants we must not forget Linschoten's great work (portions of which are printed in vol. i. pp. 324-30, and vol. ii. pp. 1-126), which give the most detailed account of the East Indies and their trade-routes that had yet been supplied to the Northern peoples of Europe. Nor must it be forgotten that when Drake captured the great 'Portugal Carrack' (the *San Felipe*) in 1587, off St. Michael in the Azores, there were found in the prize papers which revealed many of the most hidden secrets of the East Indian trade, papers to which, before all else, contemporaries ascribed the formation of our East India Company.

C. RAYMOND BEAZLEY.

MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD,

October 8th, 1902.

NOTE.—On the influence of Fitch and his companions in the overland East India journey of 1583 upon the formation and first measures of the East India Company, some light is thrown by the earliest records of the Company—e.g. (1) '2nd Oct. 1600: *Ordered that Mr. Eldred and Mr. Fitch shall in the meeting to-morrow morning confer of the merchandise fit to be provided for the voyage*; (2) 31st Dec. 1606: *King James's letters to be obtained to the King of Cambay, the Governors of Aden, etc.; their titles to be inquired of R. Fitch.*'

On Drake's *Burburata*, cp. also J. Blaeu, *Atlas Novus*, Amsterdam, 1650 (II. ii.), map of *Venezuela cum parte australi Novae Andalusiae* [*Burburate*, here.]



# Captain ROGER BODENHAM.

## *Voyage to Scio in 1551 A.D.*

[HAKLUYT'S *Voyages*, 1599.]



IN THE year 1550, the 13th of November, I ROGER BODENHAM, Captain of the bark *Aucher*, entered the said ship at Gravesend, for my voyage to the islands of Candia and Scio in the Levant. The master of my ship was one WILLIAM SHERWOOD. From thence we departed to Tilbery Hope, and there remained with contrary winds until the 6th of January 1551.

The 6th of January, the master came to Tilbery, and I had provided a skilful pilot to carry over [*past*] Land's End, whose name was Master WOOD. With all speed I vailed [*dropped*] down that night ten miles, to take the tide in the morning : which happily I did, and that night came to Dover and there came to an anchor. There I remained until Friday [the 9th] : meeting with the worthy knight Sir ANTHONY AUCHER, owner of the said ship.

The 11th day, we arrived at Plymouth. The 13th in the morning, we set forward on our voyage with a prosperous wind : and the 16th, we had sight of Cape Finisterre on the coast of Spain.

The 30th, we arrived at Cadiz : and there discharged certain merchandize, and took other aboard.

The 20th of February, we departed from Cadiz, and passed the straits of Gibraltar that night ; and the 25th we came to the isle of Majorca, and were stayed there five days with contrary winds.

The 1st of March, we had sight of Sardinia, and the 5th of the said month we arrived at Messina in Sicily ; and there discharged much goods, remaining there until Good Friday in Lent [27th of March, 1551].

The chief merchant [in London] that laded the said bark

*Aucher* was a Merchant Stranger called ANSELM SALVAGO ; and because the time was then very dangerous, and that there was no going into the Levant—especially to Scio—without a safeconduct from the Turk: the said ANSELM promised the owner Sir ANTHONY AUCHER that we should receive the same at Messina. But I was posted from thence to Candia : and there I was answered that I should send to Scio, and there I should have my safeconduct. I was forced to send one, and he had his answer “ that the Turk would give none, willing me to look what was best for me to do : ” which was no small trouble to me, considering that I was bound to deliver the goods that were in the ship at Scio or send them at my adventure [*risk*]. The merchants [*supercargoes*], without care of the loss of the ship, would have compelled me to go or send their goods at mine adventure. The which I denied, and said plainly I would not go, because the Turk’s galleys were come forth to go against Malta. But by the French king’s means, he was persuaded to leave Malta, and to go to Tripoli in Barbary : which by means of the French, he wan.

In this time there were in Candia certain Turkish vessels called *skyrasas*, which had brought wheat thither to sell ; and were ready to depart for Turkey. And they departed in the morning betimes ; carrying news that I would not go forth. That same night I had prepared beforehand what I thought good, without making any man privy to it until I saw time. Then I had no small business to cause my mariners to venture with the ship in such a manifest danger. Nevertheless I wan them all to go with me, except three which I set on land ; and with all diligence I was ready to set forth about eight o’clock at night, being a fair moonshine night, and went out. Then my three mariners made such requests unto the rest of my men to come aboard, that I was constrained to take them in.

So with a good wind we put into the Archipelago, and being among the islands, the wind scanted [*fell away*], and I was forced to anchor at an island called Micone ; where I tarried ten or twelve days ; having a Greek pilot to carry the ship to Scio. In this mean season, there came many small boats with mysson [*mizen*] sails to go for Scio, with divers goods to sell ; and the pilot requested me that I would let them go in my company, to which I yielded.

After the said days were expired, I weighed and set sail for the island of Scio; with which place I fell in in the afternoon: whereupon I cast [*tacked*] to seaward again to come with the island in the morning betimes. The foresaid small vessels which came in my company, departed from me to win the shore to get in during the night: but upon a sudden they espied three foists [*light galleys*] of Turks coming upon them to spoil them. My pilot, having a son in one of those small vessels, entreated me to cast about [*wear*] towards them; which at his request I did: and being somewhat far from them, I caused my gunner to shoot a demi-culverin at a foist that was ready to enter one of the boats. This was so happy a shot that it made the Turk to fall astern of the boat and to leave him: by the which means he escaped.

Then they all came to me, and requested that they might hang at my stern until daylight: by which time, I came before the mole of Scio, and sent my boat on land to the merchants of that place to send for their goods out of hand [*immediately*] or else I would return back with all to Candia, and they should fetch their goods from there. But in fine, by what persuasion of my merchants, Englishmen, and of those of Scio: I was entreated to come into the harbour: and had a safe assurance for twenty days against the Turk's army, with a bond of the city in the sum of 12,000 ducats. So I made haste and sold such goods as I had to the Turks that came thither; and put all in order with as much speed as I could: fearing the coming of the Turk's navy; of the which, the chief of the city knew right well.

So upon the sudden, they called me of great friendship and in secret told me, I had no way to save myself but to be gone; for said they, "We are not able to defend you that are not able to help ourselves. For the Turk, where he cometh, taketh what he will and leaveth what he lists: but the chief of the Turks set order that none shall do any harm to the people or to their goods." This was such news to me, that indeed I was at my wits' end; and was brought into many imaginations what to do: for the wind was contrary. In fine, I determined to go forth.

But the merchants, Englishmen, and others, regarding more their gains than the ship, hindered me very much in my purpose of going forth: and made the mariners to

come to me to demand their wages to be paid out of hand, and to have a time to employ [*spend*] the same there. But GOD provided so for me that I paid them their money that night : and then charged them that if they would not set the ship forth ; I would make them to answer the same in England with danger of their heads. Many were married in England and had somewhat to lose. These did stick to me. I had twelve gunners. The Master Gunner, who was a mad-brained fellow, and the owner's servant had a parliament between themselves : and he, upon the same, came up to me with his sword drawn ; swearing that he had promised the owner, Sir ANTHONY AUCHER, to live and die in the said ship against all that should offer any harm to the ship, and that he would fight with the whole army of the Turks, and never yield. With this fellow I had much ado : but at the last I made him confess his fault and follow my advice.

Thus with much labour I got out of the mole of Scio into the sea, by warping forth ; with the help of Genoese boats, and a French boat that was in the mole : and being out, GOD sent me a special gale of wind to go my way. Then I caused a piece to be shot off for some of my men that were yet in the town, and with much ado they came aboard : and then I set sail a little before one o'clock, and I made all the sail I could.

About half past two o'clock there came seven galleys into Scio to stay the ship, and the Admiral of them was in a great rage because she was gone. Whereupon they put some of the best [of the townsfolk] in-prison ; and took all the men of the three ships which I left in the port, and put them into the galleys. The Turks would have followed after me ; but that the townsmen found means that they did not. The next day came thither an hundred more galleys, and there tarried for their whole company, which being together, were about 250 sail ; taking their voyage to surprise the island of Malta.

The next day after I departed, I had sight of Candia : but I was two days more ere I could get in : where I thought myself out of their danger. There I continued until the Turk's army was past, which came within sight of the town.

There was preparation made as though the Turks would have come thither. There are in that island of Candia many banished men, that live continually in the mountains.



They came down to serve, to the number of 4,000 or 5,000. They are good archers. Every one was armed with his bow and arrows, a sword and a dagger; and had long hair, boots that reached up to the groin, and a shirt of mail hanging, the one half before, and the other half behind. These were sent away again as soon as the army was past. They would drink wine out of all measure.

Then the army being past, I ladened my ship with wines and other things: and so, after I had that which I had left at Scio, I departed for Messina. In the way, I found about Zante, certain galliots of Turks laying aboard of certain vessels of Venice laden with muscatels. I rescued them, and had but a barrel of wine for my powder and shot. Within a few days after, I came to Messina.

I had in my ship a Spanish pilot, called NOBIEZIA, which I took in at Cadiz at my coming forth. He went with me all this voyage into the Levant without wages, of goodwill that he bare me and the ship. He stood me in good stead until I came back again to Cadiz; and then I needed no pilot. And so from thence I came to London with the ship and goods in safety: GOD be praised!

And all those mariners that were in my said ship—which were, besides boys, threescore and ten—for the most part, were within five or six years after, able to take charge of ships, and did.

RICHARD CHANCELLOR, who first discovered Russia, was with me in that voyage; and MATTHEW BAKER, who afterwards became the Queen's Majesty's Chief Shipwright.





ROBERT TOMSON, of Andover, Merchant  
*Voyage to the West Indies and Mexico,*  
1556-1558, A.D.

[HAKLUYT. *Voyages*. 1589.]

That these Englishmen were allowed to go to New Spain at all was probably one of the results of the marriage of PHILIP with MARY TUDOR. BLAKE, FIELD, and TOMSON were probably the first British islanders who reached the city of Mexico. This narrative also gives us an account of the first *auto-da-fé* in that city.



ROBERT TOMSON, born in the town of Andover, in Hampshire, began his travels out of England in the month of March, anno 1553 [*i.e.*, 1554]; who departing out of the city of Bristol in company of other merchants of the said city, in a good ship called the bark *Young*, within eight days after, arrived at Lisbon, at Portugal: where the said ROBERT TOMSON remained fifteen days. At the end of which, he shipped himself for Spain in the said ship, and within four days arrived in the bay of Cadiz in Andalusia, which is under the kingdom of Spain: and from thence, travelled up to the city of Seville by land, which is twenty leagues; and there, he repaired to the house of one JOHN FIELD, an English merchant who had dwelt in the said city of Seville eighteen or twenty years married, with wife and children. In whose house, the said TOMSON remained by the space of one whole year or thereabout, for two causes: the one, to learn the Castilian tongue; the other, to see the orders of the country, and the customs of the people.

At the end of which time, having seen the fleets of ships come out of the [West] Indies to that city, with such great quantity of gold and silver, pearls, precious stones, sugar, hides, ginger, and divers other rich commodities; he did determine with himself to seek means and opportunity to pass over to see that rich country, from whence such a great quantity of rich commodities came.

And it fell out, that within short time after, the said JOHN FIELD, where the said TOMSON was lodged, did determine to pass over into the West Indies himself, with his wife, children, and family: and, at the request of the said TOMSON, he purchased a license of the King, to pass into the Indies, for himself, wife, and children; and among them, also, for the said TOMSON to pass with them. So that presently they made preparation of victuals and other necessary provision for the voyage. But the ships which were prepared to perform the voyage being all ready to depart, were, upon certain considerations by the King's commandment, stayed and arrested, till further should be known of the King's pleasure.



Whereupon, the said JOHN FIELD, with his company and ROBERT TOMSON (being departed out of Seville, and come down to San Lucar de Barrameda, fifteen leagues off) seeing the stay made upon the ships of the said fleet, and not being assured when they would depart, determined to ship themselves for the isles of the Canaries, which are 250 leagues from San Lucar, and there to stay till the said fleet should come hither; for that is continually their port to make stay at, six or eight days, to take fresh water, bread, flesh, and other necessities.

So that in the month of February, in *anno* 1555, the said ROBERT TOMSON, with the said JOHN FIELD and his company, shipped themselves in a caravel of the city of Cadiz, out of the town of San Lucar; and within six days, they arrived at the port of the Grand Canary: where at our coming, the ships that rode in the said port began to cry out of all measure, with loud voices; insomuch that the Castle, which stood fast by, began to shoot at us, and shot six or eight shot at us, and struck down our mainmast before we could hoist out our boat to go on land to know what the cause of the shooting was; seeing that we were Spanish ships, and coming into our country.

So that being on land, and complaining of the wrong and damage done unto us; they answered that "they had thought we had been French rovers, that had come into the said port to do some harm to the ships that were there." For that eight days past, there went out of the said port a caravel much like unto ours, ladened with sugars and other merchandise for Spain; and on the other side of the Point of the said island, met with a French Man of War: which took the said caravel, and unladed out of her into the said French ship, both men and goods. And it being demanded of the said Spaniards, "What other ships remained in the port whence they came?"; they answered, "There remained divers other ships, and one ladened with sugars as they were, and ready to depart for Spain." Upon the which news, the Frenchmen put thirty tall men of their ship, well appointed, into the said caravel that they had taken, and sent her back again to the said port from whence she had departed the day before.

Somewhat late towards evening, she came into port, not

showing past three or four men · and so came to an anchor hard by the other ships that were in the said port. Being seen by the Castle and by the said ships, they made no reckoning of her, because they knew her: and thinking that she had found contrary winds at the sea, or having forgotten something behind them, they had returned back again for the same, they made no account of her, but let her alone riding quietly among the other ships in the said port. So that about midnight, the said caravel, with the Frenchmen in her, went aboard [*touched*] the other ship that lay hard by, laden with sugars; and driving the Spaniards that were in her under the hatches, presently let slip her cables and anchors, and set sail and carried her clean away: and after this sort, deceived them. And they thinking or fearing that we were the like, did shoot at us as they did.

This being past: the next day after our arrival in the said port, we did unbark ourselves, and went on land up to the city or head town of the Grand Canaria, where we remained, eighteen or twenty days; and there found certain Englishmen, merchants, servants of ANTHONY HICKMAN and EDWARD CASTELIN, merchants in the city of London, that lay there for traffic: of whom we received great courtesy and much good cheer.

After the which twenty days being past, in which we had seen the country, the people, and the disposition thereof; we departed from thence, and passed to the next isle of the Canaries, eighteen leagues off, called Teneriffe; and being come on land, went up to the city called La Laguna: where we remained seven months, attending the coming of the whole fleet, which, in the end, came; and there having taken that which they had need of, we shipped ourselves in a ship of Cadiz, being one of the said fleet, belonging to an Englishman married in the city of Cadiz in Spain, whose name was JOHN SWEETING. There came in the said ship as Captain, an Englishman also, whose name was LEONARD CHILTON, married in Cadiz, and son-in-law to the said JOHN SWEETING: and another Englishman also, whose name was RALPH SARRE, came in the same ship, which had been a merchant of the city of Exeter; one of fifty years of age or thereabouts.

So that we departed from the said islands in the month of

October, the foresaid year [1555], eight ships in our company, and so directed our course towards the Bay of New Spain [*Gulf of Mexico*]; and, by the way, towards the island of Santo Domingo, otherwise called Hispaniola: so that within forty-two days [*i.e., in December*] after we departed from the said islands of Canaries, we arrived with our ship at the port of Santo Domingo; and went in over the bar, where our ship knocked her keel at her entry. There our ship rid [*rode*] before the town; where we went on land, and refreshed ourselves sixteen days.

There we found no bread made of wheat, but biscuit brought out of Spain, and out of the Bay of Mexico. For the country itself doth yield no kind of grain to make bread withal: but the bread they make there, is certain cakes made of roots called *cassavia*; which is something substantial, but it hath an unsavoury taste in the eating thereof. Flesh of beef and mutton, they have great store; for there are men that have 10,000 head of cattle, of oxen, bulls, and kine, which they do keep only for the hides: for the quantity of flesh is so great, that they are not able to spend the hundredth part. Of hog's flesh is there good store, very sweet and savoury; and so wholesome that they give it to sick folks to eat, instead of hens and capons: although they have good store of poultry of that sort, as also of guinea cocks and guinea hens.

At the time of our being there, the city of Santo Domingo was not of above 500 households of Spaniards: but of the Indians dwelling in the suburbs, there were more. The country is, most part of the year, very hot: and very full of a kind of flies or gnats with long bills [*mosquitos*], which do prick and molest the people very much in the night when they are asleep, in pricking their faces and hands and other parts of their bodies that lie uncovered, and make them to swell wonderfully. Also there is another kind of small worm, which creepeth into the soles of men's feet, and especially of the Black Moors [*Indians*] and children which use to go barefoot, and maketh their feet to grow as big as a man's head, and doth so ache that it would make one run mad. They have no remedy for the same, but to open the flesh, sometimes three or four inches, and so dig them out.

The country yieldeth great store of sugar, hides of oxen, bulls and kine, ginger, *cana fistula*, and *salsaparilla*. Mines

of silver and gold there are none; but in some rivers, there is found some small quantity of gold. The principal coin that they do traffic withal in that place is black money, made of copper and brass: and this they say they do use, not for that they lack money of gold and silver to trade withal out of the other parts of [West] India, but because, if they should have good money, the merchants that deal with them in trade would carry away their gold and silver, and let the country commodities lie still. And thus much for Santo Domingo. So we were, coming from the isles of Canaries to Santo Domingo, and staying there, until the month of December: which was three months.

About the beginning of January [1556], we departed thence towards the Bay of Mexico and New Spain; towards which we set our course, and so sailed twenty-four days, till we came within fifteen leagues of San Juan de Ulua, which was the port of Mexico of our right discharge.

And being so near our said port, there rose a storm of northerly winds which came off from *Terra Florida*; which caused us to cast about into the sea again, for fear lest that night we should be cast upon the shore before day did break, and so put ourselves in danger of casting away. The wind and sea grew so foul and strong, that, within two hours after the storm began, nine ships that were together, were so dispersed, that we could not see one another.

One of the ships of our company, being of the burden of 500 tons, called the "Hulk of Carion," would not cast about to sea, as we did; but went that night with the land: thinking in the morning to purchase the port of San Juan de Ulua; but missing the port, went with the shore, and was cast away. There were drowned of that ship, seventy-five persons, men, women, and children; and sixty-four were saved that could swim, and had means to save themselves. Among those that perished in that ship, was a gentleman who had been Pres[id]ent the year before in Santo Domingo, his wife and four daughters, with the rest of his servants and household.

We, with the other seven ships, cast about into the sea, the storm [en]during ten days with great might, boisterous winds, fogs, and rain. Our ship, being old and weak, was so tossed that she opened at the stern a fathom under water, and the best remedy we had was to stop it with beds and pilobiers



[? *pillows for litters*]: and for fear of sinking we threw and lightened into the sea all the goods we had, or could come by; but that would not serve.

Then we cut our mainmast, and threw all our ordnance into the sea, saving one piece; which, early in a morning, when we thought we should have sunk, we shot off: and, as it pleased GOD, there was one of the ships of our company near unto us, which we saw not by means of the great fog; which hearing the sound of the piece, and understanding some of the company to be in great extremity, began to make towards us, and when they came within hearing of us, we desired them "for the love of GOD! to help to save us, for that we were all like to perish!" They willed us "to hoist our foresail as much as we could, and make towards them; for they would do their best to save us;" and so we did.

And we had no sooner hoisted our foresail, but there came a gale of wind; and a piece of sea struck in the foresail, and carried away sail and mast all overboard: so that then we thought there was no hope of life. And then we began to embrace one another, every man his friend, every wife her husband, and the children their fathers and mothers; committing our souls to Almighty GOD, thinking never to escape alive. Yet it pleased GOD, in the time of most need, when all hope was past, to aid us with His helping hand, and caused the wind a little to cease; so that within two hours after, the other ship was able to come aboard us, and took into her, with her boat, man, woman and child, naked without hose, or shoes upon many of our feet.

I do remember that the last person that came out of the ship into the boat was a woman Black Moore [*Indian*]; who leaping out of the ship into the boat, with a young sucking child in her arms, leapt too short, and fell into the sea, and was a good while under the water before the boat could come to rescue her: and, with the spreading of her clothes rose above water again, and was caught by the coat and pulled into the boat, having still her child under her arm, both of them half drowned; and yet her natural love towards her child would not let her let the child go. And when she came aboard the boat, she held her child so fast under her arm still, that two men were scant able to get it out.

So we departed out of our ship, and left it in the sea. It



was worth 400,000 ducats [= about £100,000 then = about £900,000 now], ship and goods, when we left it.

Within three days after, we arrived at our port of San Juan de Ulua, in New Spain.

I do remember that in the great and boisterous storm of this foul weather, in the night there came upon the top of our mainyard and mainmast, a certain little light, much like unto the light of a little candle, which the Spaniards called the *corpus sancto*, and said "It was Saint ELMO" [see Vol. II. p. 71], whom they take to be the advocate of sailors. At which sight, the Spaniards fell down upon their knees and worshipped it: praying GOD and Saint ELMO to cease the torment, and save them from the peril they were in; with promising him that, on their coming on land, they would repair unto his chapel, and there cause masses to be said, and other ceremonies to be done. The friars [did] cast relics into the sea, to cause the sea to be still, and likewise said *Gospels*, with other crossings and ceremonies upon the sea to make the storm to cease: which, as they said, did much good to weaken the fury of the storm. But I could not perceive it, nor gave any credit to it; till it pleased GOD to send us the remedy, and delivered us from the rage of the same. His name be praised therefore!

This light continued aboard our ship about three hours, flying from mast to mast, and from top to top; and sometimes it would be in two or three places at once. I informed myself of learned men afterward, what this light should be? and they said that "It was but a congelation of the wind and vapours of the sea congealed with the extremity of the weather, and so flying in the wind, many times doth chance to hit the masts and shrouds of the ship that are at sea in foul weather." And, in truth, I do take it to be so: for that I have seen the like in other ships at sea, and in sundry ships at once. By this, men may see how the Papists are given to believe and worship such vain things and toys as God; to whom all honour doth appertain: and in their need and necessities do let [cease] to call upon the living GOD, who is the giver of all good things.

The 16th of April in anno 1556, we arrived at the port of San Juan de Ulua in New Spain, very naked and distressed of apparel and all other things, by means of the loss of our

foresaid ship and goods; and from thence we went to the new town called Vera Cruz, five leagues from the said port of San Juan de Ulua, marching still by the sea shore: where we found lying upon the sands a great quantity of mighty great trees, with roots and all, some of them four, five, or six cart load, by estimation; which, as the people told us, were, in the great stormy weather which we [en]dured at sea, rooted out of the ground in *Terra Florida* right against that place (which is 300 leagues over the sea), and brought thither.

So that we came to the said town of Vera Cruz; where we remained a month. There the said JOHN FIELD chanced to meet an old friend of his acquaintance in Spain, called GONZALO RUIZ DE CORDOVA, a very rich man of the said town of Vera Cruz; who (hearing of his coming thither, with his wife and family; and of his misfortune by sea) came unto him, and received him and all his household into his house, and kept us there a whole month, making us very good cheer; and giving us good entertainment, and also gave us, that were in all eight persons, of the said J. FIELD's house, double apparel, new out of the shop, of very good cloth, coats, cloaks, shirts, smocks, gowns for the women, hose, shoes, and all other necessary apparel; and for our way up to the city of Mexico, horses, moyles [*mules*], and men; and money in our purses for the expenses by the way, which by our account might amount unto the sum of 400 crowns [=£120 then = about £1,000 now].

After we were entered two days' journey into the country, I, the said ROBERT TOMSON, fell sick of an ague: so that the next day I was not able to sit on my horse; but was fain to be carried upon Indians' backs from thence to Mexico.

And when we came within half a day's journey of the city of Mexico, the said JOHN FIELD also fell sick; and within three days after we arrived at the said city, he died. And presently sickened one of his children, and two more of his household people; who within eight days died. So that within ten days after we arrived at the city of Mexico, of eight persons that were of us of the said company, there remained but four of us alive: and I, the said TOMSON, at the point of death, of the sickness that I got on the way, which continued with me for the space of six months [*till October 1556*]. At the end of which time, it pleased GOD

to restore me my health again, though weak and greatly disabled.

Mexico was a city, in my time, of not above 1,500 households of Spaniards inhabiting there; but of Indian people in the suburbs of the said city, there dwelt about 300,000 as it was thought, and many more. This city of Mexico is sixty-five leagues from the North Sea [*the Gulf of Mexico*] and seventy-five leagues from the South Sea [*the Pacific Ocean*]; so that it standeth in the midst of the main land, betwixt the one sea and the other.

It is situated in the midst of a lake of standing water, and surrounded round about with the same; save, in many places, going out of the city, are many broad ways through the said lake or water. This lake and city are surrounded also with great mountains round about, which are in compass above thirty leagues; and the said city and lake of standing water doth stand in a great plain in the midst of it. This lake of standing water doth proceed from the shedding of the rain, that falleth upon the said mountains; and so gathers itself together in this place.

All the whole proportion of this city doth stand in a very plain ground; and in the midst of the said city is a square Place, of a good bow shot over from side to side. In the midst of the said Place is a high Church, very fair and well built all through, but at that time not half finished.

Round about the said Place, are many fair houses built. On the one side are the houses where MONTEZUMA, the great King of Mexico that was, dwelt; and now there lie always the Viceroys that the King of Spain sendeth thither every three years: and in my time there was for Viceroy a gentleman of Castille, called DON LUIS DE VELASCO.

And on the other side of the said Place, over against the same, is the Bishop's house, very fairly built; and many other houses of goodly building. And hard by the same are also other very fair houses, built by the Marquis DE LA VALLE, otherwise called HERNANDO CORTES; who was he that first conquered the said city and country. After the said conquest (which he made with great labour and travail of his person, and danger of his life), being grown great in the country; the King of Spain sent for him, saying that he had

some particular matters to impart to him : and, when he came home, he could not be suffered to return back again, as the King before had promised him. With the sorrow for which, he died : and this he had for the reward of his good service.

The said city of Mexico hath streets made very broad and right [*straight*] that a man being in the highway at one end of the street, may see at the least a good mile forward : and in all the one part of the streets of the north part of their city, there runneth a pretty lake of very clear water, that every man may put into his house as much as he will, without the cost of anything but of the letting in.

Also there is a great ditch of water that cometh through the city, even into the high Place ; where come, every morning, at break of the day, twenty or thirty canoes or troughs of the Indians ; which bring in them all manner of provisions for the city that is made and groweth in the country : which is a very good commodity for the inhabitants of that place. And as for victuals in the said city, beef, mutton, hens, capons, quails, guinea cocks, and such like, are all very good cheap ; as the whole quarter of an ox, as much as a slave can carry away from the butcher's, for five tomynes, that is, five rials of plate [*i.e., of silver. See Vol. I. p. 320 ; Vol. II. p. 8*], which is just 2s. 6d. [= £1 5s. 0d. *now*] ; and fat sheep at the butcher's, for three rials, which is 1s. 6d. [= 12s. 6d. *now*], and no more. Bread is as good cheap as in Spain ; and all other kinds of fruits, as apples, pears, pomegranates, and quinces, at a reasonable rate.

The city goeth wonderfully forward in building of Friaries and Nunneries, and Chapels ; and is like, in time to come, to be the most populous city in the world, as it may be supposed.

The weather is there always very temperate. The day differeth but one hour of length all the year long. The fields and woods are always green. The woods are full of popinjays, and many other kind of birds, that make such a harmony of singing and crying, that any man will rejoyce to hear it. In the fields are such odoriferous smells of flowers and herbs, that it giveth great content to the senses.

In my time, were dwelling and alive in Mexico, many ancient men that were of the Conquerors, at the first con-



quest with HERNANDO CORTES: for, then, it was about thirty-six years ago, that the said country was conquered.

Being something strong, I procured to seek means to live, and to seek a way how to profit myself in the country seeing it had pleased GOD to send us thither in safety.

Then, by the friendship of one THOMAS BLAKE, a Scottishman born, who had dwelt, and had been married in the said city above twenty years before I came to the said city [*i.e.*, before 1536], I was preferred to the service of a gentleman, a Spaniard dwelling there, a man of great wealth, and of one of the first conquerors of the said city, whose name was GONZALO SEREZO: with whom I dwelt twelve months and a half [*i.e.*, up to November 1557]; at the end of which, I was maliciously accused by the Holy House for matters of religion.

And because it shall be known wherefore it was, that I was so punished by the clergy's hand; I will in brief words, declare the same.

It is so, that, being in Mexico, at table, among many principal people at dinner, they began to inquire of me, being an Englishman, "Whether it were true that in England, they had overthrown all their Churches and Houses of Religion; and that all the images of the saints of heaven that were in them, were thrown down and broken, and burned, and [that they] in some places stoned highways with them; and [that they] denied their obedience to the Pope of Rome: as they had been certified out of Spain by their friends?"

To whom, I made answer, "That it was so. That, in deed, they had in England, put down all the religious houses of friars and monks that were in England; and the images that were in their churches and other places were taken away, and used there no more. For that, as they say, the making of them, and the putting of them where they were adored, was clean contrary to the express commandment of Almighty GOD, *Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image &c.*: and that, for that cause, they thought it not lawful that they should stand in the church, which is, the House of Adoration."

One that was at the declaring of these words, who was my master, GONZALO SEREZO, answered and said, "If it were against the commandment of GOD, to have images in the



churches ; that then he had spent a great deal of money in vain ; for that, two years past [*i.e.*, in 1555] he had made in the Monastery of Santo Domingo in the said city of Mexico, an image of Our Lady, of pure silver and gold, with pearls and precious stones, which cost him 7,000 and odd *pesos*” (and every *peso* is 6s. 8d. of our money) [= *about* £2,400, or *about* £24,000 now] : which indeed was true, for I have seen it many times myself where it stands.

At the table was another gentleman, who, presuming to defend the cause more than any one that was there, said, “That they knew well enough, that they were made but of stocks and stones, and that to them was no worship given ; but that there was a certain veneration due unto them after they were set up in church : and that they were set there with a good intent. The one, for that they were Books for the Simple People, to make them understand the glory of the saints that were in heaven, and a shape of them ; to put us in remembrance to call upon them to be our intercessors unto GOD for us : for that we are such miserable sinners that we are not worthy to appear before GOD ; and that using devotion to saints in heaven, they may obtain at GOD’s hands, the sooner, the thing that we demand of Him. As, for example,” he said, “imagine that a subject hath offended his King upon the earth in any kind of respect ; is it for the party to go boldly to the King in person, and to demand pardon for his offences ? No,” said he, “the presumption were too great ; and possibly he might be repulsed, and have a great rebuke for his labour. Better it is for such a person to seek some private man near the King in his Court, and to make him acquainted with this matter, and let him be a mediator to His Majesty for him and for the matter he had to do with him ; and so might he the better come to his purpose, and obtain the thing which he doth demand. Even so,” saith he, “it is with GOD and His saints in heaven. For we are wretched sinners ; and not worthy to appear or present ourselves before the Majesty of GOD, to demand of Him the thing that we have need of : therefore thou hast need to be devout ! and have devotion to the mother of God, and the saints in heaven, to be intercessors to GOD for thee ! and so mayest thou the better obtain of GOD, the thing that thou dost demand !”

To this I answered, "Sir, as touching the comparison you made of the intercessors to the King, how necessary they were, I would but ask of you this question. Set the case, that this King you speak of, if he be so merciful as when he knoweth that one or any of his subjects hath offended him; he send for him to his own town, or to his own house or place, and say unto him, 'Come hither! I know that thou hast offended many laws! if thou dost know thereof, and dost repent thee of the same, with full intent to offend no more, I will forgive thee thy trespass, and remember it no more!'" Said I, "If this be done by the King's own person, what then hath this man need go and seek friendship at any of the King's private servants' hands; but go to the principal: seeing that he is readier to forgive thee, than thou art to demand forgiveness at his hands!"

"Even so is it, with our gracious GOD, who calleth and crieth out unto us throughout all the world, by the mouth of His prophets and apostles; and, by His own mouth, saith, 'Come unto me all ye that labour and are over laden, and I will refresh you!' besides a thousand other offers and proffers, which He doth make unto us in His Holy Scriptures. What then have we need of the saints' help that are in heaven, whereas the LORD Himself doth so freely offer Himself for us?"

At which sayings, many of the hearers were astonied, and said that, "By that reason, I would give to understand that the Invocation of Saints was to be disannulled, and by the laws of GOD not commanded."

I answered, "That they were not my words, but the words of GOD Himself. Look into the Scriptures yourself, and you shall so find it!"

The talk was perceived to be prejudicial to the Romish doctrine; and therefore it was commanded to be no more entreated of. And all remained unthought upon, had it not been for a villainous Portuguese that was in the company, who said, *Basta ser Ingles para saber todo esto y mas*, who, the next day, without imparting anything to anybody, went to the Bishop of MEXICO and his Provisor, and said, that "In a place where he had been the day before was an Englishman, who had said that *there was no need of Saints in the Church, nor of any Invocation of Saints*. Upon whose denomination [*de-*

nouncement], I was apprehended for the same words here rehearsed, and none other thing; and thereupon was used as hereafter is written.

So, apprehended, I was carried to prison, where I lay a close prisoner seven months [*till July 1558*], without speaking to any creature, but to the gaoler that kept the said prison, when he brought me my meat and drink. In the meantime, was brought into the said prison, one AUGUSTINE BOACIO, an Italian of Genoa, also for matters of religion; who was taken at Zacatecas, eighty leagues to the north-westward of the city of Mexico.

At the end of the said seven months [*i.e., in July 1558*], we were both carried to the high Church of Mexico, to do an open penance upon a high scaffold made before the high altar, upon a Sunday, in the presence of a very great number of people; who were, at least, 5,000 or 6,000. For there were some that came one hundred miles off to see the said *auto*, as they call it; for that there was never any before, that had done the like in the said country: nor could tell what Lutherans were, nor what it meant; for they never heard of any such thing before.

We were brought into the Church, every one with a *san benito* upon his back; which is, half a yard of yellow cloth, with a hole to put in a man's head in the midst, and cast over a man's head: both flaps hang, one before, and another behind; and in the midst of every flap a Saint Andrew's cross, made of red cloth, and sewed in upon the same. And that is called *San Benito*.

The common people, before they saw the penitents come into the Church, were given to understand that we were heretics, infidels, and people that did despise GOD and His works, and that we had been more like devils than men; and thought we had had the favour [*appearance*] of some monsters or heathen people: and when they saw us come into the Church in our players' coats, the women and children began to cry out and made such a noise, that it was strange to hear and see; saying, that "They never saw goodlier men in all their lives; and that it was not possible that there could be in us so much evil as was reported of us; and that we were more like angels among men, than such persons of such evil religion as by the priests and friars, we

were reported to be; and that it was a great pity that we should be so used for so small an offence."

So that we were brought into the said high Church, and set upon the scaffold which was made before the high altar, in the presence of all the people, until *High Mass* was done; and the Sermon made by a friar concerning our matter: putting us in all the disgrace they could, to cause the people not to take so much compassion upon us, for that "we were heretics, and people seduced of the Devil, and had forsaken the faith of the Catholic Church of Rome"; with divers other reproachful words, which were too long to recite in this place.

*High Mass* and Sermon being done; our offences (as they called them) were recited, each man what he had said and done: and presently was the sentence pronounced against us, that was that—

The said AUGUSTINE BOACIO was condemned to wear his *San Benito* all the days of his life, and put into perpetual prison, where he should fulfil the same; and all his goods confiscated and lost.

And I, the said TOMSON, to wear the *San Benito* for three years; and then to be set at liberty.

And for the accomplishing of this sentence or condemnation, we must be presently sent down from Mexico to Vera Cruz, and from thence to San Juan de Ulua, which was sixty-five leagues by land; and there to be shipped for Spain, with straight commandment that, upon pain of 1,000 ducats, every one of the Masters should look straightly unto us, and carry us to Spain, and deliver us unto the Inquisitors of the Holy House of Seville; that they should put us in the places, where we should fulfil our penances that the Archbishop of MEXICO had enjoined unto us, by his sentence there given.

For the performance of the which, we were sent down from Mexico to the seaside, with fetters upon our feet; and there delivered to the Masters of the ships to be carried for Spain, as is before said.

And it was so, that the Italian fearing that if he presented himself in Spain before the Inquisitors, that they would have burnt him; to prevent that danger, when we were coming homeward, and were arrived at the island of Terceira, one of the isles of Azores, the first night that we came to an anchor



in the said port [*i.e.*, of *Angra*], about midnight, he found the means to get him naked out of the ship into the sea, and swam naked ashore; and so presently got him to the further side of the island, where he found a little caravel ready to depart for Portugal. In the which he came to Lisbon; and passed into France, and so into England; where he ended his life in the city of London.

And I, for my part, kept still aboard the ship, and came into Spain; and was delivered to the Inquisitors of the Holy House of Seville, where they kept me in close prison till I had fulfilled the three years of my penance, [*i.e.*, till about 1561].

Which time being expired, I was freely put out of prison, and set at liberty.

Being in the city of Seville, a cashier of one HUGH TYPTON, an English merchant of great doing, by the space of one year [*i.e.*, till about 1562]; it fortuned that there came out of the city of Mexico, a Spaniard, JUAN DE LA BARRERA, that had been long time in the Indies, and had got great sums of gold and silver. He, with one only daughter, shipped himself for to come to Spain; and, by the way, chanced to die, and gave all that he had unto his only daughter, whose name was MARIA DE LA BARRERA.

She having arrived at the city of Seville, it was my chance to marry with her. The marriage was worth to me £2,500 [=£25,000 now] in bars of gold and silver, besides jewels of great price. This I thought good to speak of, to show the goodness of GOD to all them that trust in Him; that I, being brought out of the Indies in such great misery and infamy to the world, should be provided at GOD's hand, in one moment, of more than in all my life before, I could attain unto by my own labour.

After we departed from Mexico, our *San Benitos* were set up in the high Church of the said city, with our names written in the same, according to their use and custom; which is and will be a monument and a remembrance of us, as long as the Romish Church doth reign in that country. The same have been seen since, by one JOHN CHILTON; and divers others of our nation, which were left in that country, long since [*i.e.*, in October 1568] by Sir JOHN HAWKINS.





III

ROGER BODENHAM'S

*Trip to Mexico*

[1564-5].



## Master R O G E R B O D E N H A M .

*Trip to Mexico, 1564-1565, A.D.*

[Probably the same man as went to Scio in 1551.]

[HAKLUVT. *Voyages.* 1589.]

**I**, ROGER BODENHAM, having lived a long time in the city of Seville, in Spain, being there married: and by occasion thereof, using trade and traffic to the parts of Barbary; I grew, at length, to great loss and hinderance by that new trade, begun by me, in the city of Fez.

Whereupon, being returned into Spain, I began to call my wits about me, and to consider with myself by what means I might recover and renew my state: and, in conclusion, by the aid of my friends, I procured a ship, called the bark *Fox*, pertaining to London, of the burden of 160 or 180 tons; and with the same, I made a voyage to West India; having obtained good favour with the Spanish merchants, by reason of my long abode and marriage in the country.

My voyage was in the company of the General [*Admiral*] Don PEDRO MELENDEZ, for New Spain: who being himself appointed General for *Tierra Firma* and Peru, made his son our General for New Spain; although PEDRO MELENDEZ himself was the principal man and director in both fleets.

We all departed from Cales together, the 31st day of May, in the year 1564.

And I, with my ship, being under the conduct of the son of Don PEDRO aforesaid, arrived with him in New Spain; where, immediately, I took order for the discharge of my merchandise at the port of Vera Cruz, otherwise called *Villa Rica*: to be transported thence, to the city of Mexico; which is seventy and odd leagues from the said port of Villa Rica. In the way are many good towns, as Pueblo de los Angelos, and another called Tlaxcalan.

The city of Mexico hath three great cause[wa]ys to bring men to it: and is compassed with a lake, so that it needeth

no walls, being so defended with water. It is a city plentiful of all necessary things, having many fair houses, churches, and monasteries.

I, having continued in the country the space of nine months, returned again to Spain with the Spanish Fleet; and delivered the merchandise and silver which I had in the ship, into the Contraction House [at Seville]; and there received my freight, which amounted, outwards and homewards, to the value of 13,000 ducats and more [=about £3,600=about £30,000 *now*].

I observed many things, in the time of my abode in New Spain, as well touching the commodities of the country as the manners of the people, both Spaniards and Indians; but because the Spanish histories are full of those observations, I omit them, and refer the readers to the same.

Only this I say, that the commodity of cochineal groweth in greatest abundance about the town of Puebla de los Angeles; and is not worth there, above forty pence the pound.





Rev. RICHARD HAKLUYT.

*Sir JOHN HAWKINS's First Voyage to the  
West Indies, Oct. 1562-Sept. 1563, A.D.*

This and the two subsequent Voyages of Sir JOHN HAWKINS were the first initiation of the English into the African slave trade.

While the primary object of these voyages was Traffic : the secondary one was Discovery ; to find out those West Indian coasts which the Spaniards had hitherto kept so secret. Notice how each successive expedition penetrated further and further towards the Gulf of Mexico.

It should also be remembered that, at the time of these Voyages, HAWKINS had not been knighted, and was simply an Esquire.]

[*Voyages.* 1589.]

The first Voyage of the right worshipful and valiant Knight, Sir JOHN HAWKINS (now [*i.e., in 1589*] Treasurer of Her Majesty's Royal Navy), made to the West Indies.



MASTER JOHN HAWKINS having made divers voyages to the Isles of the Canaries ; and there, by his good and upright dealing, being grown in love and favour with the people, informed himself amongst them, by diligent inquisition, of the state of the West India : whereof he had received some knowledge by the instructions of his father ; but increased the same, by the advertisements and reports of that people.

And being, amongst other particulars, assured that Negroes were very good merchandise in Hispaniola ; and that store of Negroes might easily be had upon the coast of Guinea ; he resolved with himself to make trial thereof : and communicated that device with his worshipful friends in London, namely, with Sir LIONEL DUCKET, Sir THOMAS LODGE, Master GUNSTON his father-in-law, Sir WILLIAM WINTER, Master BROMFIELD, and others. All which persons liked so well of his intention, that they became liberal Contributors and Adventurers in the action.

For which purpose, there were three good ships immediately provided, the one called the *Solomon*, of the burthen

of 120 tons, wherein Master HAWKINS himself went as General [*i.e.*, *Admiral*]; the second, the *Swallow*, of 100 tons, wherein went for Captain, Master THOMAS HAMPTON; and the third, the *Jonas*, a bark of 40 tons, wherein the Master supplied the Captain's room. In which small fleet, Master HAWKINS took with him not above a hundred men, for fear of sickness and other inconveniences, whereunto men in long voyages are commonly subject.

With which company, he put off and departed from the coast of England, in the month of October, 1562; and in his course, touched first at Teneriffe, where he received friendly entertainment. From thence, he passed to Sierra Leone, upon the coast of Guinea; which place, by the people of the country is called Tagarin; where he stayed some good time, and got into his possession, partly by the sword, and partly by other means, to the number of three hundred Negroes, at the least; besides other merchandise which that country yieldeth.

With this prey, he sailed over the ocean sea unto the island of Hispaniola, and arrived first at the port of Isabella; and there he had reasonable utterance of his English Commodities, as also of some part of his Negroes: trusting the Spaniards no further than that, by his own strength, he was able still to master them.

From the port of Isabella, he went to Porte de Plata, where he made like sales: standing always upon his guard.

From thence also, he sailed to Monte Christi, another port on the north side of Hispaniola; and the last place of his touching: where he had peaceable traffic, and made vent of the whole number of his Negroes.

For which he received, in those three places, by way of exchange, such a quantity of merchandise, that he did not only lade his own three ships with hides, ginger, sugar, and some quantity of pearls; but he freighted also two other Hulks with hides and other like commodities, which he sent into Spain.

And thus leaving the island, he returned and disimboked [*disembarked, i.e., went out into the main ocean*], passing by the islands of the Caicos, without further entering into the Bay of Mexico, in this his First Voyage to the West India.

And so, with prosperous success, and much gain to himself and the aforesaid Adventurers, he came home, and arrived in the month of September, 1563.

# A Gentleman in the Voyage.

## *Sir JOHN HAWKINS's Second Voyage to the West Indies ;*

18th Oct., 1564—20th Sept., 1565.

[HAKLUYT. *Voyages*. 1589.]

[There are six stages in this Voyage :

### *OUTWARDS.*

- 18 Oct.—29 Nov. 1564. Plymouth, to Cape de Verde ... *pp.* 32-37  
 29 Nov. 1564—19 Jan. 1565. Along the Guinea coast ... *pp.* 37-46  
 19 Jan.—9 March 1565. Guinea coast to the W. I. ... *p.* 46  
 9 Mar.—31 May 1565. Along the North coast of South  
 America, to Rio de la Hacha ... *pp.* 46-62

### *HOMEWARDS.*

- 31 May—28 July 1565. Rio de la Hacha, to River of May,  
 Florida ... .. *pp.* 62-79  
 28 July—20 Sept. 1565. Florida, to Padstow in Cornwall *pp.* 79-80]

The Voyage made by the Worshipful Master JOHN HAWKINS, Esquire, now Knight ; Captain of the *Jesus* of Lubeck, one of Her Majesty's ships : and General [*Admiral*] of the *Solomon*, and other two [vessels] barks, going in his company to the coast of Guinea, and the Indies of New Spain ; being in Africa and America. Began in *Anno Domini*, 1564.

### *The names of certain Gentlemen that were in this Voyage.*

Master JOHN HAWKINS.

Master JOHN CHESTER, Sir WILLIAM  
 CHESTER'S son.

Master ANTHONY PARKHURST.

Master FITZWILLIAM.

Master THOMAS WOORLEY.

Master EDWARD LACIE. With divers others.

∴ *The Register* [i.e., the Log of the various dates] and true accounts of all herein expressed hath been approved by me, JOHN SPARKE the younger; who went upon the same Voyage, and wrote the same [i.e., kept a journal of these transactions].



WITH the *Jesus* of Lubeck, a ship of 700 tons; and the *Solomon*, a ship of 140; the *Tiger*, a bark of 50; and the *Swallow*, of 50 tons; being all well furnished with men to the number of 170, as also with ordnance and victuals requisite for such a Voyage; Master JOHN HAWKINS departed out of Plymouth, the 18th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1564, with a prosperous wind.

At which departing, in cutting of the foresail, a marvellous misfortune happened to one of the Officers in the ship; who by the pulley of the sheet, was slain out of hand: being a sorrowful beginning to them all.

And after their setting out ten leagues to the sea, he met, the same day, with the *Minion*, a ship of the Queen's Majesty, whereof was Captain DAVID CARLET, and also her consort, the *John Baptist* of London; being bound to Guinea also: who hailed one the other, after the custom of the sea, with certain pieces of ordnance, for joy of their meeting. Which done, the *Minion* departed from him, to seek her other consort, the *Merlin* of London, which was astern, out of sight; leaving in Master HAWKINS's company, the *John Baptist*, her other consort.

Thus sailing forwards on their way, with a prosperous wind, until the 21st of the same month; at that time, a great storm arose, the wind being at north-east, about nine o'clock in the night, and so continued twenty-three hours together. In which storm, Master HAWKINS lost the company of the *John Baptist* aforesaid, and of his pinnace called the *Swallow*: his other three ships being sore beaten with the storm.

The 23rd day, the *Swallow*, to his no small rejoicing, came to him again in the night, ten leagues to the northward of Cape Finisterre: he having put roomer [*gone out to sea*]; not being able to double the Cape, in that there rose a contrary wind at south-west.

The 25th, the wind continuing contrary, he put into a



place in Galicia, called Ferrol; where he remained five days, and appointed all the Masters of his ships an Order for keeping of good company, in this manner.

The small ships to be always ahead and aweather of the *Jesus*: and to speak, twice a day, with the *Jesus* at least.

If in the day, the ensign to be over the poop of the *Jesus*; or in the night, two lights: then shall all the ships speak with her.

If there be three lights aboard the *Jesus*, then doth she cast about.

If the weather be extreme, that the small ships cannot keep company with the *Jesus*, then all to keep company with the *Solomon*: and forthwith to repair to the island of Teneriffe, to the northward of the road of Sirroes.

If any happen to any misfortune; then to shew two lights, and to shoot off a piece of ordnance.

If any lose company, and come in sight again; to make three yaws [*? veerings of the ship*] and strike [*lower*] the misen [*i.e., the misen sail*] three times.

Serve GOD daily! [*i.e., have daily prayers*], love one another! preserve your victuals! beware of fire! and keep good company [*i.e., of the fleet together*].

The 26th day, the *Minion* came in also, where he was: for the rejoicing whereof, he gave them [volleys from] certain pieces of ordnance, after the courtesy of the sea, for their welcome. But the *Minion*'s men had no mirth, because of their consort, the *Merlin*: which, after their departure from Master HAWKINS upon the coast of England, they went to seek; and having met with her, kept company two days together. At last, by the misfortune of fire, through the negligence of one of their Gunners, the powder in the Gunner's Room was set on fire: which, with the first blast, struck out her poop, and therewithal lost three men: besides many sore burned, which escaped by the brigantine [*i.e., the Minion; apparently the ship of the same name in the Third Voyage*] being at her stern: and, immediately, to the great loss of the owners, and most horrible sight to the beholders, she sank before their eyes.

The 30th day of the month, Master HAWKINS, with his



consorts, and [the] company of the *Minion*; [the *Jesus*] having now both the brigantines [the *Solomon* and the *Minion*] at her stern, weighed anchor, and set sail on her voyage; having a prosperous wind thereunto.

The 4th of November, they had sight of the island of Madeira; and the 6th day, of Teneriffe, which they thought to have been the [Grand] Canary, in that they supposed themselves to have been to the eastward of Teneriffe; and were not. But the *Minion*, being three or four leagues ahead of us, kept on her course to Teneriffe; having a better sight thereof, than the others had: and by that means, they parted company.

For Master HAWKINS and his company went more to the West. Upon which course, having sailed a while, he espied another island, which he thought to be Teneriffe: and being not able, by means of the fog upon the hills, to discern the same, nor yet to fetch it by night; he went roomer until the morning, being the 7th of November. Which, as yet, he could not discern, but sailed along the coast the space of two hours, to perceive some certain mark of Teneriffe; and found no likelihood thereof at all, accounting that to be (as it was indeed) the isle of Palms [*Palmas*].

So sailing forwards, he espied another island called Gomera; and also Teneriffe, with which he made: and, sailing all night, came in the morning, the next day, to the port of Adezia; where he found his pinnace, which had departed [*separated*] from him the 6th of the month, being in the weather of him, and espying the Pike of Teneriffe all a high, bare thither.

At his arrival, somewhat before he came to anchor, he hoisted out his ship's pinnace, rowing ashore; intending to have sent one with a letter to PETER DE PONTE, one of the Governors of the island, who dwelt a league from the shore: but as he pretended [*intended*] to have landed, suddenly there appeared upon the two points of the road, men levelling of bases and harquebusses to them, with divers others with halberts, pikes, swords, and targets, to the number of four score: which happened so contrary to his expectation, that it did greatly amaze him; and the more, because he was now in their danger, not knowing well how to avoid it without some mischief.

Wherefore, he determined to call to them, for the better appeasing of the matter; declaring his name, and professing himself to be an especial friend to PETER DE PONTE, and that he had sundry things for him, which he greatly desired: and in the meantime, while he was thus talking with them (whereby he made them to hold their hands) he willed the mariners to row away; so that, at last, he gat out of their danger. And then asking for PETER DE PONTE; one of his sons, being SENOR NICHOLAS DE PONTE, came forth: whom, he perceiving, desired "to put his men aside, and he himself would leap ashore, and commune with him," which they did. So that after communication had between them, of sundry things, and of the fear they both had: Master HAWKINS desired to have certain necessities provided for him.

In the mean space, while these things were providing, he trimmed the mainmast of the *Jesus*, which, in the storm aforesaid, was sprung. Here he sojourned seven days, refreshing himself and his men. In the which time, PETER DE PONTE, dwelling at Santa Cruz, a city twenty leagues off, came to him; and gave him as gentle entertainment, as if he had been his own brother.

To speak somewhat of these islands, being called, in old time, *Insulæ fortunæ*, by the means of the flourishing thereof. The fruitfulness of them doth surely exceed far all other that I have heard of. For they make wine better than any in Spain: and they have grapes of such bigness that they may be compared to damsons, and in taste inferior to none. For sugar, suckets [*sweetmeats*], raisons of the sun [*our present raisins*], and many other fruits, abundance: for rosin, and raw silk, there is great store. They want neither corn, pullets, cattle, nor yet wild fowl.

They have many camels also: which, being young, are eaten of the people for victuals; and being old, they are used for carriage of necessities. Whose property is, as he is taught, to kneel at the taking of his load, and the unlading again; of understanding very good, but of shape very deformed; with a little belly; long misshapen legs; and feet very broad of flesh, without a hoof, all whole saving the great toe; a back bearing up like a molehill, a large and thin neck, with a little head, with a bunch of hard flesh which Nature hath given him in his breast to lean upon. This beast liveth

hardly, and is contented with straw and stubble ; but of strong force, being well able to carry five hundredweight.

In one of these islands called Ferro, there is, by the reports of the inhabitants, a certain tree which raineth continually ; by the dropping whereof, the inhabitants and cattle are satisfied with water : for other water have they none in all the island. And it raineth in such abundance that it were incredible unto a man to believe such a virtue to be in a tree ; but it is known to be a Divine matter, and a thing ordained by GOD : at whose power therein, we ought not to marvel, seeing He did, by His Providence (as we read in the Scriptures) when the Children of Israel were going into the Land of Promise, fed them with manna from heaven, for the space of forty years. Of these trees aforesaid, we saw in Guinea many ; being of great height, dropping continually ; but not so abundantly as the other, because the leaves are narrower, and are like the leaves of a pear tree.

About these islands are certain flitting islands, which have been oftentimes seen ; and when men approach near them, they vanished : as the like hath been of these now known (by the report of the inhabitants), which were not found but of a long time, one after the other ; and, therefore, it should seem he is not yet born, to whom GOD hath appointed the finding of them.

In this island of Teneriffe, there is a hill called the Pike, because it is piked ; which is, in height, by their report, twenty leagues : having, both winter and summer, abundance of snow on the top of it. This Pike may be seen, in a clear day, fifty leagues off ; but it sheweth as though it were a black cloud [at] a great height in the Element [*atmosphere*]. I have heard of none to be compared with this in height ; but in the [West] Indies I have seen many, and, in my judgement, not inferior to the Pike : and so the Spaniards write.

The 15th of November, at night, we departed from Teneriffe ; and the 20th of the same, we had sight of ten caravels that were fishing at sea : with whom we would have spoken ; but they, fearing us, fled into a place of Barbary, called Cape de las Barbas.

The 20th, the ship's pinnace, with two men in her, sailing by the ship, was overthrown [*upset*] by the oversight of them that were in her. The wind was so great, that before they

were espied and the ship had cast about [*tacked*] for them, she was driven half a league to the leeward of the pinnace; and had lost sight of her, so that there was small hope of recovery, had not GOD's help and the Captain's [Sir J. HAWKINS] diligence been: who, having well marked which way the pinnace was by the sun, appointed twenty-four of the lustiest rowers in the great boat to row to the windwards; and so recovered (contrary to all men's expectations) both the pinnace and the men sitting upon the keel of her.

The 25th, he came to Cape Blanco, which is on the coast of Africa; and a place where the Portuguese do ride [*i.e., at anchor*], that fish there, in the month of November especially; and is a very good place of fishing for pargoes, mullet, and dog fish. In this place, the Portuguese have no Hold for their defence; but have rescue [*defence*] of the barbarians, whom they entertain as their soldiers for the time of their being there: and for their fishing upon that coast of Africa, do pay a certain tribute to the King of the Moors. The people of that part of Africa are tawny, having long hair. Their weapons, in wars, are bows and arrows.

The 26th, we departed from S. Avis Bay, within Cape Blanco; where we had refreshed ourselves with fish and other necessities: and the 29th, we came to Cape Verde, which lieth in  $14\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  N. Lat.

These people are all black, and are called Negroes; of stature, goodly men: and well liking, by reason of their food, which [*sur*]passeth [that of] all other Guineans, for kine, goats, pullen, rice, fruits, and fish. Here we took fishes with heads like conies [*rabbits*], and teeth nothing varying; of a jolly thickness, but not past a foot long: and are not to be eaten, without flaying or cutting off the head.

To speak somewhat of the sundry sorts of these Guineans. The people of Cape Verde are called Leophares, and counted the goodliest men of all others, saving the Manicongoes, which do inhabit on this side the Cape of Good Hope. These Leophares have wars against the Jeloffes, which are borderers [*neighbours*] by them. Their weapons are bows and arrows, targets, and short daggers; darts also, but varying from other Negroes: for, whereas the others use a long dart to fight with in their hands, they carry five or six small ones a piece, which they cast with.



These men also are more civil than any others, because of their daily traffic with the Frenchmen; and are of a nature very gentle and loving. For while we were there, we took in a Frenchman; who was one of the nineteen that going to Brazil in a bark of Dieppe, of 60 tons: and being a seaboard of Cape Verde, 200 leagues, the planks of their bark, with a sea, break out upon them so suddenly, that much ado they had to save themselves in their boats. But by GOD's providence, the wind being westerly (which is rarely seen there), they got to the shore, to the isle Braves [*? Goree*]; and in great penury got to Cape Verde: where they remained six weeks, and had meat and drink of the same people.

The said Frenchman having forsaken his fellows, which were three leagues from the shore: and wandering with the Negroes to and fro, fortun'd to come to the water's side; and communing with certain of his countrymen which were in our ship, by their persuasions, came away with us. But his entertainment amongst them was such [*i.e., so pleasant*], that he desired it not; but, through the importunate request of his countrymen, consented at the last.

Here we stayed but one night and part of the day. For the 7th of December, we came away: in that pretending [*intending*] to have taken Negroes there, perforce; the *Minion's* men gave them there to understand of our coming, and our pretence, wherefore they did avoid the snares we had laid for them.

The 8th of December, we anchored by a small island called Alcatrarsa [*Alcantraz island*]: wherein, at our going ashore, we found nothing but sea birds, as we call them, gannets; but by the Portuguese called Alcatrarses, who, for that cause, gave the said island the same name. Herein, half of our boats were ladened with young and old fowl; which, not being used to the sight of men, flew so about us, that we struck them down with poles.

In this place, the two ships riding; the two barks, with their boats, went into an island of the Sapiés, called La Formio, to see if they could take any of them: and there landed, to the number of 80, in armour. And espying certain, made to them; but they fled in such order [*a manner*] into the woods, that it boot'd them not to follow.

So, going on their way forward till they came to a river, which they could not pass over; they espied on the other side,



two men ; who, with their bows and arrows, shot terribly at them. Whereupon we discharged certain harquebusses to them again ; but the ignorant people weighed it not, because they knew not the danger thereof : but used a marvellous crying in their fight, with leaping and turning their tails, that it was most strange to see, and gave us great pleasure to behold them. At the last, one being hurt with an harquebus upon the thigh, looked upon his wound, and wist now how it came because he could not see the pellet.

Here Master HAWKINS perceiving no good to be done amongst them, because we could not find their towns ; and also not knowing how to go into Rio Grande [*or Jeba*] for want of a pilot, which was the very occasion of our coming thither : and finding so many shoals, feared, with our great ships to go in ; and therefore departed on our pretended [*intended*] way to the Idols.

The 10th of December, we had a north-east wind with rain and storm ; which weather continuing two days together, was the occasion that the *Solomon* and *Tiger* lost our company : for whereas the *Jesus* and pinnace [*Swallow*] anchored at one of the islands called Sambula, the 12th day ; the *Solomon* and *Tiger* came not thither till the 14th.

In this island, we stayed certain days ; going, every day, on shore to take the inhabitants, with burning and spoiling their towns : who before were Sapiés, and were conquered by the Samboses [*the modern Sambos*], inhabitants beyond Sierra Leone.

These Samboses had inhabited there three years before our coming thither ; and, in so short space, have so planted the ground that they had great plenty of mill [*millet*], rice, roots, pompions [*pumpkins*], pullin, goats, of small dried fry : every house being full of the country's fruit, planted by GOD's Providence, as Palmito trees, fruits like dates, and sundry others, in no place in all that country so abundantly ; whereby they lived more deliciously than others.

These inhabitants had divers of the Sapiés which they took in the wars, as their slaves ; whom only they kept to till the ground, in that they neither have the knowledge thereof, nor yet will work themselves : of whom, we took many at that place ; but of the Samboses, none at all ; for they fled into the main[land].

All the Samboses have white teeth as we have, far unlike to the Sapiés which do inhabit about Rio Grande: for their teeth are all filed, which they do for bravery, to set themselves out; and do jag [*? tattoo*] their flesh, both legs, arms, and bodies as workmanlike as a jerkin maker with us pinketh a jerkin. These Sapiés be more civil than the Samboses. For whereas the Samboses live most by the spoil of their enemies, both in taking their victuals, and eating them also: the Sapiés do not eat man's flesh, unless, in the wars, they be driven by necessity thereunto (which they have not used [*done*] but by the example of the Samboses); but live only with fruits and cattle, whereof they have great store.

This plenty is the occasion that the Sapiés desire not war, except they be thereunto provoked by the invasions of the Samboses: whereas the Samboses, for want of food, are enforced thereunto; and, therefore, are not only wont to kill them that they take, but also keep those that they take until such time as they want meat, and then they kill them.

There is also another occasion that provoketh the Samboses to war against the Sapiés; which is for covetousness of their riches. For whereas the Sapiés have an order [*a custom*] to bury their dead in certain places appointed for that purpose, with their gold about them; the Samboses dig up the ground to have the same treasure: for the Samboses have not the like store of gold that the Sapiés have.

In this island of Sambula, we found about fifty boats called [*in Portuguese*] *almadas* or canoes, which are made of one piece of wood, digged out like a trough; but yet of a good proportion, being about eight yards long, and one in breadth, having a beak head, and a stern very proportionably made; and on the outside artificially carved, and painted red and blue. They are able to carry [*at sea*] twenty or thirty men; but about the coast, threescore and upward. In these canoes, they row, standing upright, with an oar somewhat longer than a man; the end whereof is made about the breadth and length of a man's hand of the largest sort. They row very swift; and, in some of them, four rowers and one to steer make as much way as a pair of oars in [*a wherry on*] the Thames of London.

Their towns are prettily divided, with a main street at

the entering in, that goeth through the town; and another overthwart street, which maketh their towns crossways.

Their houses are built in a rank, very orderly, in the face of the street: and they are made round, like a dovecot, with stakes set full of Palmito leaves, instead of a wall. They are not much more than a fathom large [*across*], and two of height; and thatched with Palmito leaves very close, other some with reeds: and over the roof thereof, for the better garnishing of the same, there is a round bundle of reeds prettily contrived like a lover [*louvre*]. In the inner part, they make a loft of sticks whereupon they lay all their provision of victuals. A place they reserve at their entrance for the kitchen; and the place they lie in is divided with certain mats, artificially made with the rind of the Palmito trees. Their bedsteads are of small staves laid along, and raised a foot from the ground, upon which is laid a mat; and another upon them, when they list. For other covering they have none.

In the middle of the town, there is a house larger and higher than the others, but in form alike; adjoining unto which, there is a place made of four good stanchions of wood, and a round roof over it: the ground also raised round with clay, a foot high: upon the which floor were strewed many fine mats. This is the Consultation House; the like whereof is in all towns, as the Portuguese affirm. In which place, when they sit in council, the King or Captain sitteth in the midst; and the Elders upon the floor by him (for they give reverence to their Elders), and the common sort sit round about them. There they sit to examine matters of theft; which if a man be taken with, to steal but one Portuguese cloth from another, he is sold to the Portuguese for a slave. They consult also and take order what time they shall go to wars; and (as it is certainly reported by the Portuguese) they take order in gathering of the fruits, in the season of the year: and also of Palmito wine (which is gathered by a hole cut in the top of a tree and a gourd [*gourd*] set there for the receiving thereof, which falleth in by drops; and yieldeth fresh wine again within a month), and this being divided, part and portion like, to every man, by the judgement of the Captain [*Chief*] and Elders; ever man holdeth himself contented. And this, surely, I judge to be a very good order; for other-

followed so hardly by a rout of Negroes (who, by that, took courage to pursue them to their boats) that not only some of them, but others standing on shore, not looking for any such matter (by means that the Negroes did flee at the first, and our company remained in the town) were suddenly so set upon, that some, with great hurt, recovered their boats: other some, not able to recover the same, took to the water, and perished by means of the ooze.

While this was doing; the Captain, who, with a dozen men, went through the town, returned; finding two hundred Negroes at the water's side, shooting at them in the boats, and cutting them in pieces that were drowned in the water: at whose coming, they all ran away.

So he entered his boats; and before he could put off from the shore, they returned again, and shot very fiercely, and hurt divers of them.

Thus we returned back, somewhat discomfited; although the Captain, in a singular wise manner, carried himself, with countenance very cheerful outwardly, as though he did little weigh the death of his men, nor yet the hurt of the rest (although his heart inwardly was broken in pieces for it): done to this end, that the Portuguese being with him, should not presume to resist against him, nor take occasion to put him to further displeasure or hindrance for the death of our men; having gotten, by our going, ten Negroes, and lost seven of our best men (whereof Master FIELD, Captain of the *Solomon* was one) and had twenty-seven of our men hurt.

In the same hour, while this was adoining, there happened, at the same instant, a marvellous miracle to them in the ships, who rode ten leagues to the seaward, by many sharks or *tiburons*, which came about the ships: one was taken by the *Jesus*, and four by the *Solomon*; and one, very sore hurt, escaped. And so it fell out with our men [*i.e.*, at *Bimba*], whereof one of the *Jesus*'s men, and four of the *Solomon*'s were killed, and the fifth, having twenty wounds, was rescued, and escaped with much ado.

The 28th, they came to their ships, the *Jesus* and the *Solomon*.

And the 30th, they departed from thence to Taggarin.

The 1st of January [1565], the two barks, and both the



boats forsook the ships, and went into a river called the Casseroes: and the 6th, having despatched their business, the two barks returned, and came to Taggarin where the two ships were at anchor.

Not two days after the coming of the two ships thither [*i.e.*, 2nd January] they put their water caske [*casks*] ashore, and filled it with water, to season the same: thinking to have filled it with fresh water afterwards. And while their men were some on shore, and some at their boats; the Negroes set upon them in their boats, and hurt divers of them; and came to the casks, and cut the hoops of twelve butts, which lost us four or five days' time, besides great want we had of the same.

Sojourning at Taggarin, the *Swallow* went up the river, about her traffic; where they saw great towns of the Negroes, and canoes that had threescore men in apiece.

There, they understood by the Portuguese, of a great battle between them of Sierra Leone side, and them of Taggarin. They of Sierra Leone had prepared three hundred canoes to invade the other.

The time was appointed, not past six days after our departure from thence: which we would [*wished to*] have seen, to the intent we might have taken some of them; had it not been for the death and sickness of our men, which came by the contagiousness of the place; which made us to haste away.

The 18th of January, at night, we departed from Taggarin; being bound for the West Indies. Before which departure, certain of the *Solomon's* men went on shore to fill water, in the night; and as they came on shore, with their boat, being ready to leap on land, one of them espied a negro in a white coat, standing on a rock, ready to have received them when they came on shore; having in sight, also, eight or nine of his fellows, some leaping out in one place and some in another; but they hid themselves straight [*immediately*] again. Whereupon our men doubting [*fearing*] they had been a great company, and sought to have taken them at more advantage, (as GOD would!) departed to their ships: not thinking there had been such mischief pretended to them, as there was indeed; which, the next day, we understood of a Portuguese that came down to us, who had traffic with the Negroes.